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IRAN:
Majles Sessions

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[FBIS Translated Text] **The National Will To Prevent the Smuggling of Goods Has Not Yet Been Established**

[Boxed item] **Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division—The Majles held an open session yesterday with Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Nateq—Nuri presiding and with the deputies of Tehran, Kashmar, Shadegan, and Marvdasht making pre-agenda speeches.**

Then the speaker of the Majles made a speech condemning the empty threat of the United States. The details of his statement were published in yesterday's issue of the paper. Then the Majles went into session. We call to your attention the details of the discussions. [end boxed item]

'Ali Naqi Seyyed-Khamushi, Deputy From Tehran

The first pre-agenda speaker of yesterday's open session was Seyyed-Khamushi from Tehran, who offered his congratulations on the new year and condolences for the death of the memento of the late Imam, Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, and said: Last year was a very busy year for the Majles. In that year, the Majles was able to pass the Second National Five-Year Developmental Plan through final ratification and prepare it for implementation from the beginning of 1374 [21 March 1995-20 March 1996].

The speaker added: For the country, last year must be considered a year of putting into operation many of the developmental projects of the First Plan, the completion of incomplete programs, and a sort of organizational stability, which naturally will pave the road for the more successful implementation of the Second Plan.

In connection with the economic successes of the country last year, Seyyed-Khamushi said: Our economic and trade relations and our technical and technological cooperation with the outside world increased, particularly with respect to large powerful countries, and the efforts of countries trying to isolate us from the rest of the world were totally ineffective.

He continued: The agreements to purchase nuclear reactors from China and the Russian Federation and positive cooperation for peaceful purposes in this connection are among the notable successes of our country in the past year.

Regarding the expansion and development of relations with other countries, the speaker said: The expansion of relations with neighboring countries, particularly the newly independent countries, has paved the way for our entering into the world markets, and we have expanded our relations with such countries as Canada, South Africa, and essentially the African continent. Of course, tangible final success in such a grave undertaking requires time and follow-up because today almost all the rich countries of the world have become aware of Africa's importance.

Stating that these points justify our hope for the future, Seyyed-Khamushi said: Commenting on our successes must not make us complacent concerning the problems and shortcomings or negate their importance. To do so will turn success into failure, and we have no time for failure or delay in our programs.

Pointing out that last year inflation increased much more rapidly than in previous years and statistics show 34 percent inflation, the speaker added: Can we bring this figure down in accordance with the goals of the Second Plan to 12 percent this year?

I hope to God the government will be successful on this grave course, but it seems very unlikely.

Stating that our banking system last year showed more composure and restraint compared to previous years with respect to the serious changes in the rates of foreign currency and gold, rarely engaging in hasty actions, he said: Nevertheless, the price of foreign currency is still an important factor in providing cash flow for the budget, and key decisions must be made for the long term to preserve the relative stability of the price of foreign currency.

Pointing out that last year the banks continued their strong control in granting industrial, production, and export loans, Seyyed-Khamushi added: The failure to implement proper and timely policies forced the government to resort once again to price controls based on accounting prices instead of effective market supply and demand. The continuous fight against price hiking caused the people to return to buying goods and storing them at home in order to prevent their decreased buying power, which resulted in goods disappearing from stores or being purchased by professionals in those long lines and sold on the streets at whatever price the sellers set.

The speaker emphasized: Facilitating production funds and supervising increased production, while preserving the quality of goods, will deliver us, to a great extent, from the total shortages in supplies, especially given that because of the foreign currency shortage, we must move toward domestic production which will enable us to spend our limited foreign currency resources not on consumer goods but on investment goods.

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He explained: The trade policies of the country, unfortunately, have become inefficient due to certain unregulated trade policies. In addition, the large foreign currency resources of the country are being converted into unwanted goods which flood the country through illegal and even legal smuggling in the free zones and border markets, inflicting more deadly blows to production and causing increased foreign currency demands in the market.

Stating that unfortunately the national will to fight this sinister economic factor has still not been established, Seyyed-Khamushi said: The government-affiliated organizations and establishments and the revolutionary institutions that must prevent this economically destructive phenomenon sometimes encourage or are involved in it.

In conclusion, the speaker called the people to conserve more.

Mohammad Reza Khabbaz, Deputy From Kashmar

The next speaker was Khabbaz from Kashmar, who expressed his gratitude to the grand leader for his new year message and said: The highlights of his honor's statements assert: "The present condition of the society indicates that progress in the areas of achieving a work ethic and social discipline has not been at the necessary and expected level. The situation of the country must be examined in those areas." The leader's concern over economic and financial discipline with regard to the treasury is very important.

The culture of conservation must govern the lives of everyone in the society, even the low-income strata, and a consumer model based on the present situation of the country must be offered and propagated.

He added: The Majles and the government must devise and offer laws and programs that can be carefully implemented to achieve the instructions of his honor, so that in some way we can fight the casino-style economy that prevails among the comfortably affluent and the leech-like Croesus, who not only do not believe in judgment day but do not even think about their people and country.

In continuation, referring to the waste and extravagance on the part of some officials, the speaker said: Ignoring these issues will drag us to inharmonious development in economic affairs that is not in the interest of the government or the country. In order to overcome the existing economic problems, the government must engage in urgent and future policies. In eliminating the problems of high prices and price hiking and in order to eliminate the people's concerns, especially those of the employees, workers, and teachers who receive fixed salaries, it must devise urgent policies and future policies for fundamental measures.

The deputy from Kashmar then condemned the new economic war and the false accusations of the Great Satan and pointed out: I must inform the countries along the Persian Gulf that the U.S. foreign minister [as published] is a dealer and seller of the U.S. military industries, and the purpose behind those baseless statements is to sell military arms. I say decisively that the evil-natured leaders of the United States will fall to the ground face down as in the past in this struggle.

In conclusion, Khabbaz appealed to the director of the National Administration and Employment Affairs for revision of the budget lines concerning the Khorasan Teacher Training School, to the minister of petroleum with regard to expediting natural gas outreach to the city of Kashmar, to the minister of roads with regard to providing a sufficient budget for the Bardaskan-Sabzevar road, to the minister of agriculture with regard to providing chemical fertilizer needed in the region, and to the minister of construction jihad for the inclusion of carpet-weavers in its coverage.

'Isa Moqaddamizad, Deputy From Shadegan

The next speaker was Moqaddamizad from Shadegan who offered his condolences on the sad death of the only memento of the late Imam and his congratulations for the new year. Referring to the ratification of the Second Plan and the directives of the grand leader in this connection, he said: Attention to the deprived regions and low-income strata with the ratification of more than 20 notes; increasing the funds related to the procurement of essential goods, drugs, and powdered milk in the course of the plan; and observing social justice are among the views of the grand leader.

He added: In the 1374 budget, the Majles emphasized paying subsidies for essential goods such as wheat, sugar, shortening, cheese, rice, red meat, milk, butter, and pesticides; regulating the products of the agricultural market; and providing the Imam Emergency Committee with the funds for the per capita insurance premiums of employees and insurance coverage for qualified individuals.

The speaker emphasized: If the related organizations, such as the Plan and Budget Organization and the Central Bank, act properly on these ratifications, the pressure of inflation on the people will be somewhat more tolerable.

In this connection, Moqaddamizad said: Unfortunately, the policy followed by the Central Bank of not providing timely foreign currency and rial funds for essential

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goods was harmful, the effects of which have not yet been eliminated. The formation of long lines in front of large stores is evidence of this claim.

He continued: The Majles must find a solution to control the large volume of cash flow, amounting to 56 trillion rials [R]. This cash flow is mostly at the disposal of a small number of people who periodically target one item for the purpose of gaining a substantial windfall profit. Last year, they targeted cars, household appliances, and especially coins.

In continuation, the speaker said: This year, new taxes will be ratified only with regard to the increase in the price of electricity, petroleum products, natural gas, post, and communication at R1.212 trillion, R900 billion, R183 billion, R20 billion, and R210 billion, respectively. If the government does arrive at a specific solution from this moment, the level of inflation will most likely not only go beyond the 12.4 percent desired growth in the Second Plan but beyond the inflation rate of the past couple of years.

Emphasizing that we must consider this a year of supervision and conservation, the deputy from Shadegan added: Even though the national and regional role of the province of Khuzestan as a major determining center of policies has always been kept in mind—considering that more than 30 percent of the created fundamental facilities have been totally eliminated and a large part of the resources, especially in the industries sector, have been depleted as a result of disuse, and the arable lands have been and are being taken into consideration—unfortunately, the province has not yet been able to play its key role in the national development.

Referring to the deprivation of the city of Shadegan, he made reminders to the Ministry of Roads and Transport with regard to expediting the widening of the Shadegan-Darkhin road, to the interior deputy minister for the construction of coastal walls and flood gates on the Jarahi River, and to concerned officials with regard to implementing developmental projects.

Habibollah Rashidi, Deputy From Marvdasht

The last pre-agenda speaker was Rashidi, the deputy from Marvdasht, who offered his congratulations for the new year and said: The Majles passed a year full of ups and downs. God willing, it will have a good year ahead.

Then, referring to the death of the late Jalil Rashidi and the vast presence of the people in his funeral procession, he pointed out: The officials know that our people have been supporters of the Islamic government, are standing firmly in their place, and are ready to obey the wise leader of the revolution and advance the lofty goals of our sacred Islamic regime. Hence, to serve these people is the same as to perform worship.

He continued: Let us not forget the people. As our late Imam said, "Appreciate these people and do not hesitate to serve them, especially the downtrodden and the oppressed."

We must act in such a way that our knees do not bend under the frightful pressure of the West. Everyone knows that for several months, the resistant people of Marvdasht did not have a spokesman in this sacred place, and therefore some of their rights have been denied.

Ratifications

The Urgency of the Proposal To Prevent Agricultural Lands in Esfahan Being Converted to an Olympic Village

The first item on the agenda of the open session of the Majles yesterday was to continue examining the urgent proposal to prevent the conversion of 1,100 hectares of agricultural land in Esfahan into an Olympic village. The general points were first ratified, then the details were discussed, and an article of it was ratified. In this session, other articles were discussed and ratified by the deputies.

Article 2

In accordance with the regulations in this law, in instances when the agricultural lands and orchards are permitted to be converted for use, 80 percent of the price of these lands and orchards—calculating the value of the land after the change in use—shall be collected from the owners as taxes and deposited in the general treasury. The procedures for the pricing of the lands cited in this law shall be determined by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance and ratified by the Cabinet.

Note

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is responsible for determining the direction of the development of utilities and townships (connected or unconnected) outside the agricultural lands and orchards as much as possible, making use of non-arable lands that cannot be used for agriculture, and minimizing the change in use of agricultural lands and orchards existing within the legal limits of the cities.

Article 3

Owners or occupants of the agricultural lands and orchards cited in this law who change the use of the agricultural lands and orchards illegally, in addition to

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mandatory payment of the taxes cited in the above article, shall pay cash fines of up to three times the price of the agricultural lands and orchards at the day's price of the land under the new use. If the offense is repeated, in addition to the above punishment, they shall be sentenced to a jail term of between one and six months.

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for sending the files of the violators of this law to the judicial authorities in order for those authorities to issue orders to stop the operation cited in this law and issue a final ruling ahead of time on the basis of related regulations.

Note 1

Government organizations, establishments, companies, city halls, and public institutions that are subject to the law, if mentioned by name, are also subject to the regulations in this law.

Note 2

Any employees of the government, city halls, and institutions who have deviated from implementing this law as determined by the proper court shall be sentenced to prison or dismissal from government or city hall services. Notary public officials who have committed such violations will be given six months to two years of suspended sentence.

Article 4

Every year the government is responsible for including funds equivalent to 80 percent of the revenues cited in this law in the annual budget of the Ministry of Agriculture for the Ministry of Agriculture, in accordance with the related legal regulations, to spend on fundamental agricultural affairs—including leveling land, building canals, irrigation, drainage, dams and earthen dams, providing water, and revitalizing unused dead lands—and to place the remaining 20 percent at the disposal of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development for studying and preparing non-arable lands for the development of cities and the creation of townships.

Article 5

From the date this law is ratified, the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture shall be a member of the Committee on Article 5 of the law on establishing the Supreme Council of Urban Development and Architecture.

Article 6

A total of 300 hectares of land related to the large Esfahan Athletic Center shall be allocated to building that athletic center, and the remainder shall be handled in accordance with this law.

Article 7

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for implementing this law and for preparing the implemental bylaws of this law within three months and having it approved by the Cabinet.

Article 8

All laws and regulations contrary to this law are nullified.

Urgency of Amending the Law To Establish Transport Companies

The second item on the agenda was the bill to amend the law on establishing transport companies put forth by the government as very urgent.

Regarding the urgency of the bill, the government representative said: In the 1374 budget, the deputies ratified that the collection of revenues and carrying out of expenditures be the responsibility of an organization called the National Transport and Terminals Organization. Hence, the previous assembly of owners of the above-mentioned companies comprised of the ministers of roads and finance and the Plan and Budget Organization was transferred in accordance with the budget notes to the board of directors of the Transport and Terminals Organization.

After the statements of the government representative, the very urgent priority rating of the bill was put to a vote and was not ratified. Then it was put to a vote as urgent and was ratified. It is interesting that the single article states:

Note 3 of the law concerning the transport companies ratified in 1361 [21 March 1982-20 March 1983] is amended as follows:

"Note 3. The general assembly of the transport companies of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the International Transport of the Islamic Republic of Iran shall be the board of directors of the National Transport and Terminals Organization, and the chairmanship of the assembly will be the responsibility of the director of that organization."

Regulation for Selecting Teachers

The last item on the agenda was the second round of discussions of the Joint Education and Administrative and Employment Affairs Committee regarding the proposal to determine the regulations for selecting teachers and its authority, of which two articles were ratified.

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Article 1

The law on selecting athletic instructors, teachers, and all education employees on the basis of the decree of the Imam dated 15/10/1361 [5 January 1983] shall be as follows:

Article 2

In addition to meeting the general requirements for employment, scholarly competence, and physical and psychological ability, the general regulations for the moral, ideological, and political selection of education employees and employees and volunteers of nonprofit schools, affiliated organizations, and companies; those in the teacher training centers and teacher training schools; those with high school teaching pledges; those who have pledged to serve or be hired and work; domestic and foreign education grant recipients; those involved in the sending of permanent and other agents; and transfers from other organizations for educational and noneducational positions shall be as follows:

1. belief in Islam or one of the official religions explicitly cited in the Constitution;

2. practical adherence to Islamic rules;
3. belief in and commitment to religious guardianship, the regime of the Islamic Republic, and the Constitution;
4. not being known for moral corruption and debauchery;
5. not having a history of affiliation with organizations and supporting parties, organizations, and groups that have been or will be announced as illegal by proper authorities, unless their repentance is proven;
6. not having a history of penal conviction put into effect;
7. not being addicted to narcotics.

Note 1

Regarding Paragraph 2, the religious minorities explicitly cited in the Constitution, in terms of belief and practices, shall be subject to their own particular requirements, provided the related laws and regulations are observed and they attempt to not violate Islamic rules in any way.

Note 2

Self-sacrificers are given priority in selection. In cases of limited capacity and numerous applicants, priority will be given to those applicants who fit the priority standards (such as being from a deprived region, activity in revolutionary institutions, participation in Friday and congregational prayers, and chador-veiling for sisters).

Note 3

Determining doubt or suspicion regarding Paragraph 5 of the general rules shall be the responsibility of the Ministry of Information and in other instances the responsibility of the Supreme Selection Committee.

Continuing examination of other articles was postponed to the next session.

On the Sidelines of the Majles

Hospitalization of 'Askar-Owladi in Sasan Hospital

Habibollah 'Askar-Owladi, deputy of the people of Tehran, collapsed yesterday morning after a speech to an assembly of emergency workers and was immediately taken to Sasan Hospital and hospitalized in the Cardiac Care Unit.

An informed hospital official told our correspondent: The general condition of Mr. 'Askar-Owladi is good. The physicians have diagnosed his condition to be the result of a great deal of work-related stress. The latest report indicates that his condition is good. He will probably be released from the hospital today.

New Year

After a two-week holiday, the Majles still had a New Year atmosphere. In the corridors and on the floor of the Majles, deputies and officials congratulated each other on the new year.

Induction Ceremonies of the New Deputy From Shahrud

Dr. Musavi, recently elected to the Majles from Shahrud, took his oath yesterday. The previous deputy was the late Hojjat ol-Eslam Hoseyni-Shahrud, who died of cancer.

Report on the Settlement of the 1372 Budget

The examination of the report on settling the 1372 budget began yesterday in the Accounting Committee. After several examination sessions, the results are to be read in the open session of the Majles. It is noteworthy that this is the fourth budget settlement report since the victory of the Islamic revolution.

Tehran City Hall and the Issue of Shahriar

The refusal of Tehran City Hall to carry out the law amending the Tehran city limits has apparently resulted in conflict between the deputy of Shahriar and the minister of interior on the one hand, and both of them and Tehran City Hall on the other. The issue of withdrawing City Hall from the city of Shahriar was ratified last year in the form of an inquiry in the Majles,

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but despite the presidential order, Tehran City Hall still refuses to comply. This week the deputy of the people of Shahriar questioned the minister of interior about this problem.

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[FBIS Translated Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division—The Majles met yesterday in open session chaired by Dr. Rowhani, deputy speaker of the Majles, and the deputies from the cities of Qazvin, Salmas, Ardel, and Arak gave pre-agenda speeches. Then the deputy speaker gave a speech condemning the U.S.'s propaganda uproar, the text of which was printed yesterday.

We direct your attention to the details of the proceedings.

Seyyed Ahmad Nasri, Deputy From Qazvin

The government and the Majles must work together to take basic measures to use the currency in circulation held by the public.

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Nasri, deputy from Qazvin. During his speech he said: In his latest message, for the second time in the new year the exalted leader made several very important points, such as the need to have a work ethic and for financial and economic contraction.

If all the people, and most of all the officials and those running the government, will take note and apply these points, many of society's current problems and difficulties will be solved.

He discussed the achievements of Hashemi Rafsanjani's government in carrying out development projects. He added: The results of implementing these projects have greatly reduced our need for the outside world, but one of the results of several years of current expenses and development is that the government's assets have increased, and at least 10 percent of this has come from the unprecedented currency in circulation in the hands of the public. The speaker noted that the government and the Majles must work together to take basic measures to use the currency in circulation held by the public. He said: A requirement for achieving this is to remove the numerous obstacles and problems that obstruct investment by the public.

The deputy from Qazvin continued: Today investors have the highest sense of insecurity in the production sector, especially in industry. The greatest factor causing insecurity in this sector of the economy is the continuous, very contradictory, decisions being made by the economic ministries. Every day a new decision is made behind closed doors concerning production and industry. The producer has no role in these decisions, and the ability to plan is taken away from him completely.

Nasri noted: Establishing coordination among the relevant ministries, making unified decisions, and getting the owners of industry involved in these decisions can be an effective step in solving some of the problems in the production sector.

With respect to the unemployment problem, he said: There is only one way to solve this problem and that is through investment. The most important government responsibility is for it to act to the extent of its ability to create favorable conditions for investment by the public.

The speaker emphasized: The people of the Qazvin area are eagerly awaiting new government and public measures to solve their problems. We must not lose time. We must not put off today's work until tomorrow, for tomorrow will be too late.

Nasri discussed the fact that the Qazvin plain is one of the most fruitful ones in Iran. He added: It is necessary to build a reservoir dam on the Shahrud river to the north of Qazvin. The studies for this dam were completed prior to the triumph of the Islamic revolution in 1334 [21 March 1955-20 March 1956]. A diversionary dam was built in 1354 [21 March 1975 - 20 March 1976] with a 1,200 kilometer water delivery channel. A construction budget was allocated in 1372 [21 March 1993-20 March 1994]. In 1373 [21 March 1994-20 March 1995], however, it was deleted from the book by order of Mr. Rowghani-Zanjani, and it was not proposed for 1374 [21 March 1995-20 March 1996].

He continued: The question now is, why was the construction of a dam approved by the Majles removed by the Plan and Budget Organization? The Plan and Budget Organization must give the Majles a satisfactory answer.

The deputy from Qazvin discussed the deprivation in his electoral district. He said: We want the government to make the necessary efforts to meet the basic needs of the people, most of whom are working in the trenches of industry.

He explained: We understand the nation's problems. If thousands of large and medium-size projects are being implemented throughout the country and the Voice and Vision Organization is broadcasting reports about openings and ground-breakings, why is there no sign of these projects being implemented in Qazvin?

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At the end of his speech the speaker called for economizing in the government organizations and asked the minister of the interior to submit the Bill on the Province of Qazvin to the Majles and the government.

Reza'i, Deputy From Salmas

The next speaker was Reza'i, deputy from Salmas. During his speech he directed constructive criticism in a brotherly way to the nation's executive officials and the president of the republic. He said: The people are asking about the limits and the ceiling on economic adjustment in the name of development because sudden price increases are psychologically shocking to society. Ultimately, who is going to keep that promise made by the president of the republic and stabilize prices and prevent selling at high prices?

He continued: All the people are asking us why the government and its leaders are not specifically and clearly rejecting those who make mistakes and sometimes commit crimes. If measures are being taken, then why isn't the nation being told about the punishments of the wrongdoers?

The speaker also said: Isn't any kind of violation taking place in society? Aren't the extravagance and the racism just salt in the wounds of the nation? Then why is there no sign of an appropriate approach? Isn't it time to stop the factions and the economic gangs working in government companies and elsewhere?

In conclusion he asked: Is it right for those running the government to allow the 1,000 families to come back to life and weaken the nation?

'Ali Yusefpur, Deputy From Ardel

Those officials whom the leader is addressing must strive to find executive procedures to reach the goals his excellency is stipulating.

The next speaker was Yusefpur, deputy from Ardel. In his speech he offered condolences on the death anniversary of His Holiness the Imam (peace be upon him). He said: The sacred government of the Islamic Republic is becoming stronger every day. The revolutionary thought of His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, which is the very Islam of Mohammad, is spreading throughout the world.

He discussed the activities of the government since the revolution, including the matter of reconstruction. He said: The success of the government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani is success for the Islamic Republic.

In a time when one of the important duties of every Iranian Muslim is to preserve and guard the gains of the Islamic revolution, I submit memos as a matter of duty.

He added: In his New Year's message, the exalted leader recounted the high points of last year's message and announced that this year will be a year of effort to achieve financial and economic contraction. Those officials whom the leader is addressing must strive to find executive procedures to reach the goals his excellency is stipulating, and they must avoid having the memos be repeated or having the messages sent again.

The speaker continued: Under current conditions, where we are engaged in adjusting the nation's economy and when inflation and high prices are one of the basic problems of individuals with fixed incomes, if the designated policy of financial and economic contraction is fully implemented it can solve our economic policies to a great extent. The executive organizations, especially the ones the exalted leader was addressing, must appoint staffs in their organizations.

The deputy from Ardel explained: In their interviews and speeches, officials must not consider alignment with the exalted leader to be the only concern of the people and their families. The important thing is implementing financial and economic contraction in the executive organizations, whether in the government, the judiciary, or the Majles, because currently the government organizations and the organizations affiliated with the government are the largest producers and consumers in society.

In our executive organizations there are two management tendencies: 1. mobilization management, and 2. management that considers employment and position a place for satisfying its worldly desires and occupies itself with the accumulation of wealth by making full use of the resources it has available.

Continuing, Yusefpur noted: The decorations are changed in the rooms from time to time and in the mornings bouquets of flowers and baskets of sweets and fruits decorate the desks of the gentlemen. This management tendency, whose practitioners may be found in the executive organizations and even in the legislative and judicial powers, is one of the important factors in the economic instability. These people are the ones to whom the exalted leader was chiefly referring. They must be fought seriously, and if they do not change their ways they must be removed from their positions.

Seyyed Hoseyn Sharifi, Deputy From Arak

The Majles and the commissions are not using their full capacity in the matter of supervision.

The final pre-agenda speaker was Sharifi, deputy from Arak. In his speech he discussed the exalted leader's

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guidance during the New Year's holidays. He said: It is the responsibility of each and every one of us, wherever we are, to plan to carry out this guidance, not only to find practical ways to implement it but to make the implementation of each of his important statements a part of the general culture of our society because their implementation will guarantee our nation's independence. On this basis it is recommended that the leaders of the three branches of government form a special staff called the Staff to Pursue and Implement the Exalted Leader's New Year's Message, composed of a limited number of concerned, active, and committed people.

He continued: There is no doubt that part of the contents of the exalted leader's message must gradually become a part of society's culture. For this reason, these staffs must include a number of thinkers and experts on social and cultural affairs. In addition, the seminaries, the universities, the Voice and Vision Organization, the press, the respected Friday imams and the congregations will help in this regard.

He added: For example in the reports from the National Inspectorate Organization and the Accounting Court there is visible progress in this area, and new ground is even broken to reduce the violations of the revolution's forbidden things, to which the exalted leader referred in his speech this year in Holy Mashhad. At this time I must state clearly that the Majles, the deputies, and the commissions are not making full use of their capacities and abilities in the matter of supervision. Doesn't this message require us to think of ways to overcome these shortcomings? Don't these things need a reappraisal?

In conclusion Sharifi offered thanks and praise for the gas delivery and telephone expansion in Araq.

Legislation

Motion To Appoint Teachers

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was continued consideration of the report from the second consultation of the Joint Education and Training and Administrative and Employment Affairs Commission concerning the Motion To Appoint Teachers and its Authority, the full details of which were approved by the deputies.

Article 10: The duties of the Supreme Appointment Council are as follows:

1. make policy, see that regulations on appointments conform to religious law, set regulations, set qualifications, and appoint authorities on changes.

Article 11: The responsibilities of the Ministry of Education and Training in the matter of appointments are as follows:

1. holding examinations or specialist interviews where necessary in accordance with national hiring regulations in appointing someone with the responsibility of representing the minister on the council (if approved by the National Administrative and Employment Affairs Organization).

Article 12: In addition to the requirements given in Article 2 of this law, those carrying out the appointments must have the following qualifications:

1. The qualifications given in the Order from His Holiness the Imam (peace be upon him) dated 10/1/1361 [22 December 1982]: They must be sound, committed, wise, of high moral character, learned, and aware of current affairs. They must not be harsh, negligent, or naive.

2. They must be 25 years old and married for membership in the central councils, and 23 years old and married for the appointment cells where necessary, and married status is required for other appointment personnel.

Article 13: Individuals not found to have the general qualifications or to be the best choice during the appointment process may make a written appeal to the appeal authority (preliminary and final) within two months of obtaining the decision at each stage. If the appeal does not succeed and the time limit expires, the opinion issued will be definitive and binding. The guidelines for this article will be prepared by the Supreme Appointment Council and be given approval.

Council 3: Those protesting the views of the Central Council and the appointment cells have a maximum of two months after the opinion is issued to complain to the Administrative Justice Court, and the court will act in some way.

Article 16: The Ministry of Intelligence and all the executive and judicial organizations, the police, and the intelligence and political ideology organizations of the Armed Forces are required to cooperate as necessary with the Supreme Council and the Central Appointment Council with regard to selecting individuals. They must provide the needed intelligence within a maximum of two months, adhering to the laws and regulations with the relevant classifications.

Charter for the Postal and Communications Airline Services Company

The second item on the Majles agenda was the report from the first consultation of the Joint Post, Telegraph,

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and Telephone and Administrative and Employment Affairs Commission concerning the Bill on the Charter for the Special Postal and Communications Airline Services Corporation (PAYAM), continued consideration of which was postponed until the next session.

Very Urgent Motion To Transfer Vehicles to Managers

The Very Urgent Motion on Procedures for Transferring Government Vehicles to Managers of Government Organizations was submitted to the Majles.

Mr. Mohsen Kuhkan, deputy from Lanjan and Mobarakeh and one of the signers of the motion, told our correspondent: Note 13 of the 1373 [21 March 1994-20 March 1995] Budget Law provides that surplus workers who wish to be bought back or to retire may make use of means for transferring government vehicles, and in this way some of the government's expenses and the volume of its workers will be reduced.

In view of the fact that I am a member of the Majles group supervising the performance of this note and we have asked repeatedly to be kept informed about the way this work is being done without being given these resources, last year it was reported that some organizations are only being turned over to the managers and at very low prices.

Because of the sensitivity to this matter, in the 1374 Budget Law the Majles deleted the note on transfers. As soon as this note was deleted in the last two months of last year [21 January-19 March 1995], some government organizations began transferring vehicles twice as fast. One government organization even transferred 10 times as many vehicles in the last two months of the year as it had done in the first 10 months of 1373. In other words, in the first 10 months of last year it transferred 120 vehicles, and in the last two months of 1373 it transferred about 1,200 vehicles. This type of approach aroused the deputies' sensitivities. Using their prerogatives under the law, the deputies asked that the violations be dealt with and that there be an investigation if the transfers were done against regulations.

10 Apr 95

95LA0222A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 11 Apr 95 p 11

[FBIS Translated Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division—The Majles, chaired by Mr. Rowhani, met in open session on Monday, and the deputies from Ahvaz, Abadan, Borujerd, Tabriz, and Astaneh-Ashrafieh spoke as pre-agenda speakers. Then the Majles took up its agenda, and we direct the attention of our respected readers to the details of the proceedings.

Seyyed Ahmad Musavi, Deputy From Ahvaz

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Musavi, deputy from Ahvaz. During his speech he praised and thanked the president of the republic for his visit to the Province of Khuzestan and for the unequaled welcome the public gave him. He said: Without a doubt, the exalted leader of the revolution is our speaking Koran. He has the guiding light in his hand to lead society from oppression into the light. This will not be achieved unless everyone works together to put his orders into practice.

He added: Unfortunately sometimes it is seen that support is reflected only in the Friday prayer sermons, the pre-agenda speeches, and in the newspapers; then it is forgotten after a while. It appears that the heads of the three powers of government are faced with a heavy responsibility to hold joint meetings clarifying how this will be implemented and guaranteed for their organizations. Definitely, if the people in charge of the government take one step in the direction of adhering to financial and economic contraction and preventing waste and dissipation, our dear people will take 10 steps. In practice the people have proven repeatedly that they obey the prophetic commands of their leader.

He continued: The quality of the brackish water in Ahvaz gets worse every day because of the sewage from numerous factories, farms, and industries in Karun. If a solution is not found, in addition to a water shortage in Karun, the people will be fighting desperately against various diseases.

Continuing, Musavi discussed the increasing high prices and inflation in Khuzestan, and he said the solution is for the government to open chain stores and reform the distribution system.

The deputy from Ahvaz requested the completion of the project to build the 400-bed hospital in this city, and he issued a memo to the Social Security Organization about completing the Ahvaz hospital.

Musavi then requested help and cooperation from the minister of the interior in converting the village of Karkheh to a district and from the minister of education and training in solving the problems of the teachers in the region.

Mohammad Sa'id Ansari, Deputy From Abadan

The next speaker was Ansari, deputy from Abadan. During his speech he gave thanks and praise on behalf of the people of the municipality of Abadan, Ervandkenar,

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Bahmanshir and the tribal people for the visit to the Province of Khuzestan by the president of the republic.

The speaker mentioned the unequaled public turnout and welcome for the president of the republic. He added: We are certain that this trip will have good and blessed results. In view of the fact that problems were turned over to the president of the republic and in light of his comments, we expect that the demands of our good people will be met.

Hadi Hatami, Deputy From Borujerd

The next speaker was Hatami, deputy from Borujerd. During his speech he said: Let us say that with the implementation of the great university and industrial projects, some of which have already gone through the preliminary stages, with more help from the government we will be able to elevate this city of knowledge and thought (meaning Borujerd) to one of the great university and industrial centers.

In the same regard the speaker discussed practical ways to improve quality. He said: With emphasis on the need to reinforce academic centers, develop general education, create research centers, convert agricultural teacher schools to colleges, support research projects, and establish universities and educational centers in the technical and engineering fields, this municipality is the primary foundation for elevating public education.

At the end of his speech Khatami asked the president of the republic to allocate a special governor's office, and he asked the minister of the interior to reattach the 38 rural areas that were detached from the municipality.

Fakhr Taj Amir Shaqaqi, Deputy From Tabriz

The next speaker was Amir Shaqaqi, deputy from Tabriz. During his speech he discussed the anniversary of severing political relations with the United States, and the U.S.'s recent commotion. He said: With regard to these issues, news coverage must be such that false anxieties will be removed from the minds of the public. In addition to the Voice and Vision Organization, it would be better if the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance delivered the news to the people with the proper analyses.

He discussed the government's efforts to implement the goals of the First Five-Year Plan. He added: To perform this task the zealous and contented teachers, the teachers of society, the professors in the universities and seminaries, and the laborers and staff workers have done most of the work without the slightest expectation.

The deputy from Tabriz also said: In return for this, the government and the Majles must also give priority to providing for the lives and welfare of these people. The speaker discussed the unsolved problem of selling at high prices. He said: A government that is successful in implementing important and vital projects should make efforts with the help of the Majles to solve these problems.

Worse than selling at high prices is the lack of price stability. Stabilizing prices, reinforcing government penalties, and dealing forcefully with violators requires the attention of those who are running the government. Amir Shaqaqi emphasized: The government and the Majles must give special attention to raising the wages of workers with high school diplomas and teachers and staff with less than high school diplomas.

The deputy from Tabriz also said: It is true that the problem of coordinating retirement wages has been solved, but these deprived people's lives are greatly affected by the enormous taxes that are taken from their wages. These people are deprived of extra work, either because they have second jobs or because they are physically weak. I propose that the Majles exempt these people from taxes.

Hasan Shakhesi, Deputy From Astaneh-Ashrafieh

The final pre-agenda speaker was Shakhesi, deputy from Astaneh-Ashrafieh. During his speech he said: The government has been able to implement extensive projects in the country by solving many domestic and foreign economic, financial, political, and specialist problems.

He continued: One can mention the construction of dams, power plants, roads, and railroads and the development of hospitals and universities.

The speaker discussed the writing and approval of universal insurance in the Second Five-Year Plan, which is quite expensive. He said: This was a big step that the government and the Majles took, and the people will definitely appreciate it.

He emphasized the excessive increases in the rates for needed and necessary public goods and services. He added: Today we cannot deal only with one item or an increased price of only one item. We must oppose price increases of any kind.

The speaker noted that today the public is worried about the unbridled price increases. He said: The people have always tried to stay in step and in line with the government, but what worries the people more than anything else is control of organizations, especially the government companies.

At the end of his speech he issued memos to the minister of roads and transportation about expediting the project

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to make a freeway of the road from Sefidrud to Bandar-e Kiashahr, to the executive director of the Bank of Agriculture with regard to financially strengthening the Bank of Agriculture in the municipality of Astaneh and reforming the structure for allocating banking and agricultural means, to the minister of the interior about rising sea waters, and to the minister of education and training about rejecting the competence of the person in charge of guarding the Gilan Office of Education and Training and appointing a worthy and qualified person.

Legislation

New Deputy From Shahrud's Credentials

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the report from section 10 concerning the election file of Seyyed Mohammad Musavi Shahrudi, deputy from Shahrud, whose credentials were approved by the deputies.

Airline Services Company Charter

The second item on the agenda was continued consideration of the report from the first consultation of the Post, Telegraph, and Telephone and Administrative and Employment Affairs Commission concerning the Bill on the Charter for the Post and Telegraph Services Special Corporation (PAYAM), the general form of which was approved with 134 votes in favor and 38 votes opposed out of 209 votes.

Use of Legal Representatives by Organizations

The next item on the agenda was the report from the second consultation of the Judicial and Legal Affairs Commission concerning the Bill on the Use of Legal Representatives by Some Foundations before the Judicial Authorities and Exempting the Martyr Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, Orphans, and Women Without Supervision Covered by the Welfare Organization and the Imam's (Peace Be Upon Him) Aid Committee and Wounded War Veterans from the Payment of Court Costs, for which Article 1 and its note were approved by the deputies.

Article 1: Under this law, the Martyr Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, the 15 Khordad Foundation, the Imam's (Peace Be Upon Him) Aid Committee, the Foundation for the Oppressed and Wounded War Veterans of the Islamic Revolution, the Former Prisoners of War Staff, the Municipalities and Banks, and the nongovernment universities may present their legal representative to submit complaints or defend against relevant complaints before the judicial authorities.

Note: Concerning complaints pertaining to the children of martyrs and also orphans and women without supervisors covered by the Welfare Organization and the Imam's (Peace Be Upon Him) Aid Committee, and also wounded war veterans, the Martyr Foundation is exempt from the payment of court costs.

Motion Questioning Note 43 of the 1373 [21 March 1994-20 March 1995] Budget Law

The fourth item on the agenda was the report from the Plan and Budget Commission concerning the Motion Questioning Note 43 of the 1373 National Budget Law, for which Article 1 was approved by the deputies:

Question:

Do the terms Ministry of Reconstruction Jihad Development Projects, given in Paragraph 5 Part A, and Ministry of Agriculture Development Projects, given in Paragraph 1 Part B Note 54 of the 1373 National Budget Law, also include the development projects of the affiliated organizations and the institutions affiliated with the Ministry of the Reconstruction Crusade and the Ministry of Agriculture?

Commission's view:

Article 1: The credits in Note 54 include the development projects of the Ministry of the Reconstruction Jihad and the affiliated organizations and institutions who have budget rows in the development projects mentioned in Supplement 1 of the 1373 National Budget Law.

Question on Administrative Procedure for Free Trade Zones

The next item on the agenda was the report from the Economic and Financial Affairs and Cooperatives Commission concerning the Bill Questioning Article 13 of the Law on Administrative Procedures for Free Trade and Industrial Zones of the Islamic Republic of Iran, for which Article 1 was approved by the Majles.

Topic of Question:

Is the tax exemption in Article 13 of the Law on Administrative Procedure for Free Trade Zones, enacted 6/7/1372 [29 August 1993], applicable in the period between the time of creation of the free trade zones and the time the aforementioned law was approved?

Commission's View:

Article 1: The tax exemption given in Article 13 of the aforementioned law is enforceable.

Urgent Status for Motion To Stabilize Prices of Chemical Fertilizers in 1374

The Motion to Stabilize Prices of Chemical Fertilizers and Pesticides in 1374 was submitted to the Majles by

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120 deputies, and its consideration was postponed to the next session.

Ministry of Intelligence Employment Bill

The details of the Ministry of Intelligence Employment Bill was the final item on the Majles agenda, several articles of which were approved.

Based on Article 3 of this bill, the Ministry of Intelligence may use as agents or transfer official workers in other ministries, institutions, government companies, bodies of the Islamic revolution, police, military, and sheriff's forces, subject to agreement by the highest official in the aforementioned organizations, provided they have the qualifications for the needed duties.

Likewise Article 8 gives the qualifications for serving, and these include the following:

A. Belief in the foundations of the Islam of Mohammad (peace be upon him), the Islamic revolution, and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and a willingness to make sacrifices to achieve their goals.

B. Belief and practical commitment to the absolute vice-regency of the chief jurisconsult and the exalted leader.

J. Practical commitment to the fundamentals and commands of Islam and the laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran and adherence to Islamic moral criteria.

D. Non-membership or affiliation in political parties, groups, or organizations.

H. Not having a record of membership, affiliation, or partisan support for non-Islamic, extremist, or illegal parties, groups, or organizations.

Z. No effective cooperation or direct or indirect activity to strengthen the foundations of the former regime.

Based on Article 9, the Ministry of Intelligence is authorized to appoint and hire its organizational cadre from individuals subject to the obligatory public service system in accordance with the regulations in Article 14 of the Obligatory Public Service Law enacted in 1373.

Article 16 of this bill states: The ministry is required to evaluate and classify all of its occupations based on the importance of the responsibilities and duties, experience, and Islamic knowledge and values required, and the qualifications for holding them. It must designate the qualifications for holding each occupation and allocate the occupations to the relevant groups. The relevant regulations must be approved by the president of the republic after confirmation by the minister.

Note: Any kind of change or amendment to the classification of occupations must be done according to the above procedure.

16 Apr 95

95LA0223A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 17 Apr 95 p 9

[FBIS Translated Text] [Boxed item] **Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division—The Majles held an open session yesterday with Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq-Nuri presiding, and the deputies from Kuhdasht, Shiraz, the Jewish Minority, and Ahvaz made pre-agenda speeches. Then the speaker of the Majles presented a report on his recent visit to Kuwait and Sudan, which was published yesterday in the newspaper. The Majles then went into session. We call to your attention the details of the discussion. It should be mentioned that the details of speech of the speaker of the Majles were published yesterday in the newspaper.** [end boxed item]

'Ali Emamirad, Deputy From Kuhdasht

The first pre-agenda speaker of yesterday's open session of the Majles was Emamirad from Kuhdasht, who said: Price hiking and disrupting the market are among the sinister conspiracies of the global oppressors headed by the United States. The plan to fight them that was introduced by the serving government is a correct and fundamental step and is in support of the oppressed and the vulnerable stratum in the society.

Stating that the method of operation and the leverages in the plan are not the solution, he said: We must know that economic terrorists and disrupters of the market, these mercenaries of the foreigners, neither pay attention to the officials of the regime nor are afraid of the empty warnings. Success in fighting price hiking and harnessing inflation depends on the timely supply of essential goods at a level to meet the needs of the low- and middle-income strata of the society and using the coupon method to supply other goods at an abundant level and a balanced price, with full and strong supervision over and serious and decisive dealing with violators in the distribution market as well as economic disrupters.

Then, emphasizing the importance of education in the society, he said: Today's scholars believe that the growth and development of every country is dependent on its investment in education to build the future generation of that country. If the climate of our country today is filled with economic concerns, which have overshadowed everything, we must know that what will guarantee the future and bring eternal salvation is understanding and placing importance on education. Policy makers must know that if the economy is the axis of the independence of the country, as it is, if the life of the country depends on the growth and development

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of industry, and if other issues are important, we must realize that all this depends on the importance and support given to education.

He added: World experience has taught us the lesson that those countries that have climbed the staircase of progress have invested fundamentally and essentially in education. The public expects government officials to expedite tomorrow's growth and development by giving more support to education.

Then, pointing out that since the time Mr. Torkan took charge as minister of roads and transport the Khorramabad Airport has been closed, he asked the minister to find a workable solution, considering that no flights are currently made to the province of Lorestan.

He said: Mr. Minister, is your inappropriate action a reasonable response to the expectations of the people, who consider you an offspring of their province?

Referring to the Kuhdasht region as an agricultural area, Emamirad then pointed out the problem of the water shortage and said: The promise to build dams on the rivers and pump the water from them is one of the repeated and constant examples of the government officials and local officials prior to and after the revolution and has been and is one of the important aspirations of the region.

Qasem Sho'leh-Sa'di, Deputy From Shiraz

The next speaker was Sho'leh-Sa'di from Shiraz, who referred to the recent actions of the United States and said: One does not expect anything else from the enemy. We do not even expect our friends to take steps to secure our national interest, let alone our enemies. But isn't it time to change the method of fighting the United States? Are slogans sufficient, or must we go beyond slogans? Must we take action? Has the time not come to devise a strategy and make plans in the fight?

He continued: Will the revocation of the oil agreements remain unanswered? Should the Azerbaijan Government submit to the U.S. blackmail in this manner in response to the generous support and help of Iran, especially considering the internal crisis and the war with Armenia? Did we react appropriately?

The speaker also said: Should Iran's foreign aid not be reviewed, especially in light of our own financial and economic problems? In connection with practical planning for this fight, the deputy from Shiraz said: Either we must tighten our belts, as the late Imam said, and only rely on God and ourselves, closing our eyes to foreign loans and not putting the country in debt, or, if we seek to meet some of our needs in the world, we will be obliged to respect more than ever before the accepted international principles.

In this connection, Sho'leh-Sa'di added: We who have the government model of his holiness, the Commander of the Faithful, and know not only his holiness' behavior toward his friends but his generous dealings with his enemies, must not give the slightest excuse to such persons as Galindopol [as transliterated], not only regarding partial reports, but due to belief in the generosity, freedom, and human rights that are emphasized by Islam.

In connection with the most sensitive part of the struggle in the economic domain, he said: Something crucial must be done for a country that has approximately 1 percent of the world's population and about 1 percent of the world's area, but 7 percent of the world's resources. To quote the president, a continent is contained in Iran, and an overall glance would suggest that the average standard of living of our people should be better than 700 percent above the average standard of living of the people in the world.

He continued: First, I suggest that if we create economic security no one will be inclined to sell his property and convert it to foreign currency and move it abroad, but rather, those who love Iran and have not committed treason and have resources abroad will be able to use their capital in the service of development and production in the country.

The speaker also said: Second, we must bring under the control of the government, the law, and the Majles those organizations that have sprouted everywhere and have created a strong economic feudal system, which drags on the economic sectors, affecting the economy of the country. This, of course, will be a difficult task because it will threaten the windfall interests of many. We must, therefore, expect to confront them.

Sho'leh-Sa'di then added: What is the meaning of the Propaganda Office of the Theological Center, the Martyrs Foundation, the Ministry of Information, the Islamic Propaganda Organization, etc., all engaging in mining and operating factories?

He emphasized: An end must be put to the duplicated expenditures in like organizations. These like organizations must be eliminated in accordance with the Constitution.

Stating that this feudal system exists not only in the economic sector but that numerous parallel centers have also taken over the Judicial and Legislative Branches, the deputy from Shiraz said: In the Judicial Branch, we face the Special Prosecutor's Office and the Clerics' Court, the Revolution Council and the Prosecutor's

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Office, the Article 49 Court and the Prosecutor's Office, and the Traditional and General Justice Departments, etc., each of which implements its own particular methods and laws. Of course, our noble judges who examine the billion-rial embezzlement cases generally do not make a subsistence living, and we must make some important decisions in this regard.

He continued: In the Legislative Branch, we face at least several legislative authorities, among whom the Majles, the Council for the Discernment of Expediency, and the Supreme Council for National Security have a basis in the Constitution, and the Economic Council and the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution have no such basis. In the least, the harm they do is to contaminate responsibility. In this connection, the deputies are accessible to the people and are responsible to the nation, without having a full share in making decisions. In this connection, the speaker said: Even that which is their certain right is not achieved. For example, of all these international treaties and contracts, only cultural agreements and road cooperation are ratified by the Majles, and there is no news of the rest. The Majles is being wronged to the point that it is being presented as the only agent raising the price of government goods and services.

Stating that if we have chosen a market economy and even in practice the government is also subject to the market, we must accept a more open political climate along with it, the deputy from Shiraz said: Based on the Constitution, the formation of political parties and societies is permitted, and a standard law on it was ratified years ago. In practice, however, even though we have significant freedoms we still refuse to establish parties that extend the possibility of criticism up to the top of the government pyramid and have left the power in the uneven monopoly of two factions. As a country in which not even one official nongovernment party exists, we are providing the ill-wishers with the best excuses.

He emphasized: If fighting the United States is to be taken more seriously, all the forces of the country must participate in this struggle. One of the ways for such participation is to create a more open political climate, which is an absolute necessity.

Pointing out that our universities must come out of this de-politicization that is objected to by the grand leader as well, the speaker said: Most certainly, becoming political does not necessarily mean an endorsement for us. It may even result in our being criticized. In this connection, the university people must be given sufficient guarantees, and we must be more tolerant.

The deputy from Shiraz said: I ask the Majles and the Judicial Branch to deal with the mindless plundering of the treasury. If the people know that the white-collar and influential criminals are dealt with decisively and if they know that criminals that have pocketed 123 billion tumans are being dealt with more thoroughly instead of leniently, even reducing the amount to 6.5 billion tumans, then they will accept wholeheartedly the $1 trillion in war damages.

Referring to the volume of fundamental work under way, Sho'leh-Sa'di added: Of course, a balance must be established between fundamental and other projects. Otherwise, if the people are destroyed, what will be the use of fundament work?

Kuros Keyvani, Deputy of the Jews

The next speaker was Keyvani, deputy of the Jewish Minority, who said: Before everything else, I congratulate everyone on the new year on behalf of myself and the Jewish community and wish a successful year for the beloved country and people.

He said: Unfortunately, last year ended for all people in sorrow and mourning at the loss of the memento of the late Imam. The speaker added: At the beginning of the victory of the revolution the Imam said, "We consider Judaism separate from Zionism." With this statement we blocked the opportunism of the enemies of Iran, and when the late Haj Ahmad Aqa personally came to welcome several thousand Jews from the 'Alavi School, he completed the action of the Imam, and the minds of the Iranian Jews were set at ease that, as always, they would be supported by the revered clerics of Islam.

He emphasized: The Iranian Jews will always remember the kindness and support of the late Imam and his son, may he rest in peace.

The deputy of the Jews said: Today (Sunday) is the second day of the eight days of Passover, or freedom, or in Persian the Fatir Feast, which is a reminder of his holiness Moses opposing the pharaoh. I take this opportunity to congratulate all the people of our faith and all free people on this feast.

Keyvani also said: Sunday is also Easter, and the day of the ascension of Jesus. I congratulate all the Christians on this feast. Also, 6 Farvardin [26 March] was the birthday of Zoroaster. Congratulating the Zoroastrian brothers and sisters, I remind you that these celebrations are held along with the Muslim brothers, and this pleasant climate is the best denial of the climate created against Iran regarding human rights. We condemn these hostile actions.

He then added: Unfortunately, today there is news of war, destruction, genocide, and death from everywhere

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in the world, which is mostly the result of grudges and the nurturing of grudges.

It is astonishing that these writers consider the opposition to be nurturers of hostility without noting that in their own writings they themselves do the same.

The deputy of the Jews said in conclusion: If all of us believe in God's command that is accepted by all religions, wish for others what you would wish for yourself, and follow it in all of our actions and writings, certainly peace and tranquillity will govern the world. With the help of God, all the people of the world must help to build a world that is pleasing to God.

Mohammad Reza Mavalizadeh, Deputy From Ahvaz

Mavalizadeh, the deputy from Ahvaz, was the last pre-agenda speaker. He referred to the New Year statements of the grand leader and said: Now, it is obligatory for all the officials and the whole nation to start a general mobilization to achieve these basic directives and, by carefully observing them, take Islamic Iran one more step ahead.

Referring to the 40th day after the death of the memento of the Imam, he thanked the president and his companions for their visit to the province of Khuzestan and said: The noble, committed, revolutionary, and loyal people of Khuzestan, including those of the city of Ahvaz, in connection with their presence at all times in various places, once again displayed their heroism with their unprecedented welcome to the president, and I thank them for their welcome.

Mavalizadeh mentioned the inauguration of the fundamental Bafeq-Bandar 'Abbas railroad project as one of the glories of the Islamic Republic regime and said: Now that the world has seen all the capabilities of our regime, including the power, leadership, and intelligence of the officials, our defense capability, our scientific capability, etc., we must increase our capability to implement the large national and regional developmental projects. Undoubtedly, this essential axis is considered an important factor in regulating the level of relations between the countries and will play an important role in raising our status in the international community.

He then pointed out: The problems of inflation and price hiking continue to exert great pressure on the vulnerable strata and the oppressed classes in the society. In order to be able, as the leader of the revolution said, to witness the establishment of social justice alongside the economic modification plan, the time has come for the sharp blade of the law to strike forcefully and without any considerations on the heads of all the opportunist, leech-like forces and the dealers and middlemen who have no conscience, who like octopus have grabbed the foreign currency system of goods and services and sucked the blood of the people.

He asked the president for help and cooperation regarding the start of operations of the thoracic surgery section of Ahvaz Golestan Hospital; allocation of the necessary budget to complete the fifth bridge; attending to the problems and shortages regarding education; solving the problem of unemployment, with 160,000 unemployed people registered in the province; completion of the Imam 400 bed hospital; and allocation of the necessary funds to transfer drinking water for Ahvaz and dredging the Karun River.

Ratification

Examining the Employment Bill of the Ministry of Information

The only item on the agenda of the open session of the Majles this morning was to continue examining the second round of discussions of the Joint Committee of Internal Affairs and Administration and Employment Affairs regarding the employment bill of the Ministry of Information, of which the details were ratified.

According to Article 17, the Ministry, at the start of employment, will evaluate the expertise and skills of employees (ensuring conformity of the job with the holder of the job) and, with consideration for the regulations, determine their job status, group, and rank.

Article 18. The Ministry may, upon the instructions of the minister, create temporary positions for unprojected duties and, within a maximum of one year, determine the situation with regard to them in terms of elimination of the job or insertion in the detailed organizational charts of the Ministry.

Note: If the job is eliminated, the Ministry is responsible to employ the employees in another appropriate position, if possible, in accordance with the regulations.

Article 19. The salary and benefits of the employees of the ministry carrying out organizational duties and full-time service shall be calculated and paid on the basis of the law on coordinated payment and later amendments and bylaws ratified by the Cabinet.

Article 42. In order to create a spirit of innovation and creativity and raise the scientific and practical knowledge and capabilities, considering its needs, the ministry is responsible for taking steps to establish on-the-job educational or training courses in ideological, political, and specialized areas.

Note: The determination of the educational methods and policies and also the framework of the educational

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programs in ideological, political, and personal areas shall be in accordance with the bylaws to be approved by the minister.

Article 43. In order to procure and train the needed technical and specialized cadre in the university fields, which it is unable to recruit from the universities in the country, the Ministry may take steps to establish colleges or higher education institutions in accordance with the legal rules and regulations.

Article 44. The Ministry may meet some of its specialized needs by giving grants from universities and higher education institutions outside the Ministry.

Article 45. The Ministry is responsible, at certain intervals that are no less than once a year, for evaluating the talent, competence, commitment, behavior, and quantitative and qualitative output of its employees in terms of efficiency, expertise, experience, and political and social awareness.

Article 46. The status of employees of the Ministry in terms of service, as the case may be, shall be one of the following:

A. Employment, including: 1. service on both official and trial bases, 2. contract service, 3. procured service;

B. On leave;
C. assigned;
D. assigned to serve;
E. absent;
F. ready to serve;
G. captive or hostage;
H. missing;
I. temporary termination;
J. suspension.

Article 53. The employees of the Ministry are considered martyrs in the following cases:

1. Cases under which they are considered martyrs:

A. Being killed by the enemies of the regime;
B. Being killed on any combat or operational assignment;
C. Being killed or death in enemy captivity or while a hostage by the counterrevolutionaries and opponents of the regime;
D. Being killed while in pursuit or undertaking surveillance of the enemies of Islam and the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran;
E. Death by assassination as a result of service.

2. Cases in which they are considered the equivalent of martyrs:

A. Being killed in the course of travel to or from any intelligence assignment;
B. Death during pursuit or surveillance of the enemies of Islam and the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran;
C. Being killed in any combat or intelligence training;
D. Death as a result of injuries or harm resulting from the instances stated in the paragraphs of the law.

According to Article 71, the employees of the Ministry, including those working, retired, or terminated from service, are responsible for obtaining the necessary permission from the Ministry when leaving the country. Otherwise, they shall be considered in violation of orders, and, after being reported to the judicial organization of the Armed Forces, the contents of Article 23 of the law on punishment for the violations of the Armed Forces will be implemented.

Article 74. Any contact with foreigners by the employees of the Ministry is prohibited, unless it is due to the official requirements, and the related officials have been notified.

Note: Accepting any sort of title, gift, medal, or transaction with foreigners, except upon informing the related officials and based on official duties, is prohibited.

Article 75. The employees of the Ministry are responsible for informing the Ministry of any change or development in their personal situation, including changes of residence and marriage.

Article 76. The marriage of employees of the Ministry to foreign nationals or those who have previously become citizens of Iran is prohibited.

Article 77. Employees of the Ministry are responsible for safeguarding their official and organizational secrets.

Article 78. Employees of the Ministry do not have the right to become members of or have any affiliation with political groups and parties.

Note 1: Employees of the Ministry do not have the right to take part in the organizational assemblies and meetings of political parties and groups, unless required by their official duties and the related officials are informed.

Note 2: Employees of the Ministry do not have the right to take any position for or against the legal political parties and groups in the public assemblies and circles that will cause their endorsement or denial.

Article 79. Steps to relinquish the citizenship of the Islamic Republic of Iran are prohibited for employees of the Ministry and will result in prosecution.

According to Article 105, the Ministry is responsible, after the ratification of this law within a period of one

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year, for adjusting all its existing employees on the basis of the regulations of this law.

On the Sidelines of the Majles

Bylaws Reminder by the Deputy of Damavand and Firuzkuh

Rasulinezhad, in his bylaws reminder addressing the speaker of the Majles, said: The bylaws of the Majles have established a period of time for the ministers to respond to the reminders of the deputies. Unfortunately, some of the reminders that I have made have been read, but the gentlemen have not yet responded.

He added: An example of these reminders relates to the Ministry of Roads and Transport. Your Honor was kind enough to read the reminder about the "reason for the increase in the price of airplane, bus, and minibus tickets" on 18/12/1373 [9 March 1995]. Unfortunately, despite the great number of problems that have been made, the gentlemen have not sent us any response, and the problems remain as before.

In response to this reminder, Mr. Nateq-Nuri said: The gentlemen on the board of directors have taken steps regarding this reminder, and if an answer is not given again, we shall send a follow up and then take the necessary steps.

Visit of the Speaker of the Majles to the Transport Affairs Department of the Majles

Yesterday during the recess, Mr. Nateq-Nuri and several officials of the board of directors visited the Motor Pool and Transport Affairs Department of the Majles. In these ceremonies, a report was presented regarding transport affairs and expenditures that are imposed on the budget in the course of the year due to the deterioration of the vehicles, their high fuel consumption, and the necessity for change in the motor pool system. It was emphasized that from now on the motor pool is supposed to operate using Peugeot cars manufactured domestically. A number of old cars and Mercedes Benzes, the maintenance and spare parts of which are costly and of which fuel consumption is high, will be auctioned at prices determined by experts.

Based on this report, while studying the problems of the transport affairs personnel during this visit, Mr. Nateq-Nuri became familiar with their problems. Regarding purchasing a number of Peugeot cars, the speaker of the Majles said: Because the previous vehicles have high fuel consumption and spare parts for them are expensive, the board of directors decided to change them for domestically produced cars. He also asked the transport affairs personnel to be more careful in properly using the cars and protecting the public property.

Regarding the Purchase of the Raw Materials for the Carpeting in the Majles

Following the publication of a report on importing the raw materials for the carpeting of the Majles, a member of the board of directors of the Majles told our reporter: The thread and raw materials for the production of carpeting have been procured from domestic resources to be placed at the disposal of the factory to be woven to the specifications of the Majles.

He added: In changing the old carpeting, the usable parts were supposed to be used in other needed areas of the Majles, and the report that the Majles has engaged in importing raw materials is strongly denied.

He also said: The board of directors of the Majles is monitoring the expenditures and will not allow inappropriate expenditures to be carried out. The carpeting in the corridors of the Majles has been used for more than 35 years, and much of it is rotted and unusable.

Response of the Speaker of the Majles to the Deputy From Shiraz Regarding the Law on Political Parties

In response to the statements of Sho'leh-Sa'di, the deputy from Shiraz, regarding the implementation of the law on political parties, the speaker of the Majles said: One of the proud facts of our regime is the law on political parties, which was ratified. The Article 10 Committee has been established in the Ministry of Interior for a long time. Political parties, groups, societies, and minorities go there, and on the basis of the law ratified by the Majles, many parties and groups have received permission for their activities. If a group is not granted permission to engage in activities, it is because it does not meet the requirements and regulations of the law. Mr. Sho'leh-Sa'di should have paid attention to this issue in his statements.

18 Apr 95

95LA0219A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 19 Apr 95 pp 4, 11

[FBIS Translated Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division—The Majles met in open session yesterday chaired by Mr. Nateq-Nuri, and the deputies from the cities of Minudasht, Tehran, and Maku spoke as pre-agenda speakers. The Majles speaker gave a speech commemorating Army Day, the details of which were printed yesterday, and then the Majles took up its agenda. We direct the attention of our respected readers to the details of the proceedings.

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Abdollah Sani-Sa'idi, Deputy From Minudasht

To reform the administrative structure, I propose that a branch of the Administrative Justice Court be operated in all the municipal courts.

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Sani-Sa'idi, deputy from Minudasht. During his speech he discussed the exalted leader's New Year's message. He said: The government and the Majles, as bodies making policy to guide the public, are responsible for every child born on this soil as a citizen. By adopting measures such as arresting and controlling the population, they are providing society with health for mother and child and free education and study.

He cited administrative structural reform as an important factor in the nation's economic reform.

He added: Why doesn't the Plan and Budget Organization set an economic strategy for the country? To achieve administrative reform and fight its corruption, I propose that a branch of the Administrative Justice Court be operated in all the municipal courts to deal with public complaints about the way the offices operate.

The speaker noted that high prices do not exist in the economy. He noted: Most of the monopoly goods and services in our economy are produced by the government and its affiliate organizations. Therefore, when the price is set for a producer by the government, that is not the finished cost. In some instances of profiteering, it shows a smaller increase in the public's purchasing power compared to the previous year.

Thus, instead of saying that an item has become expensive, we should say that the public's purchasing power has decreased. He continued: Even if currency in circulation has remained in society in the form of rials, its purchasing power has declined, but when the Central Bank sells $5,000 in foreign exchange to any ordinary applicant, unfortunately some of society's currency in circulation is converted to a more stable currency. The owners of that currency not only retain their purchasing power, but with this completely mistaken Central Bank policy their purchasing power increases and they are able to make various maneuvers on the market.

He also added: We must not forget that saving and keeping all these greenback dollars amounts to giving the same amount of money to foreigners. Every dollar that comes into the country definitely represents the departure from the country of valuable goods such as oil.

The deputy from Minudasht then noted that the rule of the spirit of trade and self-interest in the organizations affiliated with the government undoubtedly guarantees and will guarantee economic corruption. He said: In this regard, examples that can be cited include the various strange auction advertisements for such things as cold storage facilities and slaughterhouses owned by the municipality of Tehran, packaging and exporting facilities for Bam dates, auctions by Sepah Bank selling iron beams, and auctions selling radiology equipment by the Telephone Company.

Sani-Sa'idi discussed the problems and difficulties in his electoral district. He asked the minister of education and training to help with the completion of education and training space, and he issued memos to the minister of post, telegraph, and telephone about the Telephone Company's commitments, to the minister of the interior about revising the Minudasht Guide Project, to the minister of agriculture concerning the timely procurement of fertilizer and pesticides for the region's farmers, and to the minister of mines about continuing the coal studies.

Mohammad Hashem Rahbari, Deputy From Tehran

The organizations, newspaper owners, and committed intellectuals must frankly make their policies and procedures known to the public so the people will know which person or group to support.

The next speaker was Rahbari, deputy from Tehran. During his speech he offered congratulations on the occasion of Army Day, and he spoke in support of the president of the republic's statements against the U.S.'s domineering behavior. He said: The Islamic Republic of Iran, with the wise support of the exalted leader and the concerned officials, is continuing on its course of growth, despite the wishes of its enemies. The people know that the spread of intellectual values, religious beliefs, economic and political independence, and the preservation of national security depend on factors that they should work to create so they can have a brighter future.

He added: Let us learn from the experiences of ourselves and others. Let us strive more than ever to make selections based on faith, awareness, intellectual solidarity, and the public interest, so our people will be more educated, experienced, and impervious to enemy plots. Therefore, the organizations, newspaper owners, and committed intellectuals who are running the country and who wish in this way to serve the public and the nation's development and construction must frankly make their policies, procedures, and specific programs known to the public so the people will know in the near future which person or group to support to get answers to their questions.

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What is their view on freedom of speech and the pen and freedom of activity by political parties and groups, and what is their documented analysis of others? How do they explain the use of political forces who think in other ways? What is their view on the concept, meaning, and effects of economic adjustment, price deregulation, relative merits, just profit and pricing, economic and tax justice, reform of the economic and administrative structure, and the nation's financial, monetary, and banking policies? Is what they have to say about profits superficial or does it have content? What are their solutions for release from the one-product economy? Should we remain in OPEC or not and why? Our oil revenues are in dollars, and our foreign exchange consumption is in a basket of currencies, and the daily decline in the value of the dollar reduces the nation's revenues and purchasing power every day.

Rahbari continued: Do they believe in the consumption model, agricultural production, and industry and industrial strategy? In the country's circumstances and in the world today, which do they consider more appropriate, foreign exchange-using industry or labor-intensive investment?

What do they say about the cooperatives sector and participation by the public?

The deputy from Tehran also said: What is the difference between domestic and international and Muslim and non-Muslim investment? How much do they care about investment in production, conversion industries, and services? Are they defenders of foreign economic management inside the country? How do they asses the political, cultural, economic, and social consequences of that? How should the general level of prices be coordinated with the public's financial capacity? Should each consumer pay the prices of the goods and services he consumes or not, and if the answer is negative, how should the difference be made up and what groups and categories should receive government economic aid?

In the view of the group and intellectual trend to which you subscribe, what is the extent of the prerogatives, responsibilities, and participation of women in the family and in society academically, culturally, politically, economically, socially, administratively, judicially, and their involvement in international affairs?

Mohammad 'Abbaspur, Deputy From Maku

The next speaker was 'Abbaspur, deputy from Maku. During his talk he commemorated 29 Farvardin [18 April], Army Day, and he discussed the U.S.'s recent mischief. He said: The people of the world know very well that the U.S. Government itself is the main violator of human rights. The production and use of atomic weapons is recorded in history in the U.S.'s name, and this shame will never be removed by accusing and inciting against others.

The deputy from Maku continued: While I support the respected president of the Islamic Republic of Iran's comments about continuing the struggle against U.S. plots, I direct the attention of that country's (the United States) president to the human rights violations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, occupied Palestine, the Republic of Chechnya, and the United States itself by its own government and by usurper Israel and its allies, so that he may be ashamed of all his falseness.

The speaker then discussed the sincere services by the Muslim government and nation of Iran to Azerbaijan. He criticized the oil treaty between Azerbaijan and the United States and said: Any oil treaty signed in the Republic of Azerbaijan without Iran's involvement is voided by both of the Muslim and brother nations of Iran and Azerbaijan because it smells of imperialism and is aimed at dominating the economy and oil interests of the nation of Azerbaijan, and that is unacceptable.

The deputy from Maku advised the leaders of the Republic of Azerbaijan that backing down and paying tribute to the United States has brought no result to the nations of the world other than hardship and misfortune. Just as you freed yourself from the yoke of communism, it was expected that you would not then become a captive of world-devouring U.S. imperialism. You must realize that that nation's independence depends on not following the policies of the United States and Israel. The value of the friendship and kinship of Iran cannot be bought with any criterion or privilege.

The speaker also explained: In doing this you have undermined the confidence the nations of the region had in you. By giving the United States and Israel a foothold in your country, you have made the greatest mistake with regard to the rights of your nation and the people of the region. By failing to accept Iran in the Azerbaijan oil consortium under U.S. pressure, you have evoked memories in the minds of most of the people in the region, especially the bereaved people of the Republic of Azerbaijan, of the shameful treaties of Golestan and Turkomanchay. It would be better, before you face the harsh reaction from the Muslim people of the Republic of Azerbaijan, that you take steps to remove this mark of shame.

'Ali Movahedi-Saveji, Deputy From Tehran

The final pre-agenda speaker was Mr. Movahedi-Saveji, deputy from Tehran. In his speech he offered congratulations on Army Day and said: The problems and obstacles blocking the path of the government include the

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failure to deal decisively with those who sell at high prices, the lack of price stability and in setting prices, the sowing of dissatisfaction and problems by corrupt parasites in the offices, organizations, and companies, weak management, and the government's lack of success in eliminating discrimination in providing services even among government workers and service employees.

The deputy from Tehran emphasized: The government must take the necessary measures and preparations to implement its economic policies.

The government organizations are doing illegal things and putting pressure on the people which are very readily and gratuitously making them unhappy.

In the same regard he added: The Water Organization has created a water delivery network for the town of Sadeqieh of Ne'matabad in the vicinity of the Saveh road, and the people have paid the cash and the payments on installing the service lines so they can have sanitary water.

However, the municipality has obstructed the water connection and it is demanding huge sums of money from the people either because homes do not have construction permits or have violations. The citizens are saying that they built these homes about 35 years ago when this area was not within the city limits and the municipal regulations were not in force. There was no municipality from which to seek authorization.

The speaker added: The people are both oppressed and earn low incomes, and they are not able to pay these sums. Does the municipality realize what it means to stop the delivery of drinking water for the collection of heavy sums of money that most of the people are unable to pay, and how unhappy and pessimistic this will make the people?

Movahedi-Saveji also said: About 1,200 members of the railroad housing cooperative went repeatedly to the municipality and obtained its agreement to build shelter for themselves on land purchased in the Saveh Road area. After the housing development was built and the funds were collected from the cooperative, now they have announced that the construction of the development in this area is impossible and illegal.

The deputy from Tehran emphasized: Why didn't the municipality tell the people this at the beginning? Why did it leave the people hanging for several years, signing a contract with the cooperative and collecting funds from the people? If the municipality knew it was illegal to build the development, why did it collect funds from the people? If there was no legal obstacle, why are they obstructing it now?

Movahedi-Saveji continued:

The municipality has also dealt illegally with the ocean power cooperative and several others in the Afsarieh precincts. This cooperative has about 300,000 square meters of land and the people have taken lawful steps for several years to obtain permits and build housing. About 100,000 square meters of this land are inside the limits for urban services.

He explained: At a meeting attended by the respected minister of the interior and his deputy minister for development, the matter was raised at the Councils and Domestic Affairs Commission. Everyone agreed, including the respected minister of the interior, that the municipality is required to issue permits for cooperative lands within the city limits and to take legal steps to solve the problems with the part that is outside the city limits.

At the end of his speech the speaker emphasized: Unfortunately, so far the municipality has created problems and has refused to give the permits.

Legislation

Appending Note to Ministry of Higher Education and Ministry of Health Care Buildings Eviction Law

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the report from the first consultation of the Judicial and Government Affairs Commission concerning the Bill Appending a Note as Note 3 to the Eviction Law on Ministry of Higher Education and Ministry of Education and Affiliated Institutions and University Buildings which Are Held by Other Ministries and Organizations, the general form of which was approved.

Agreement on Iran and Armenia Route

The second item on the agenda was the report from the Housing and Urban Development commission with regard to the Bill on the Iran and Armenia International Shipping Route Agreement between the governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Armenia. The aforementioned agreement was approved by the deputies.

Amendment to Article 3 of Medical, Beverage, and Pharmaceutical Regulations

The next item on the agenda was the report from the second consultation of the Health Care Commission concerning the Motion to Amend Article 3 of the Law on Medical, Pharmaceutical, and Food and Beverage Regulations, approved in 1334 [21 March 1955-20

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March 1956], for which Article 1 was approved by the Majles.

Article 3: Whoever practices the relevant arts without an official medical, pharmaceutical, dental, laboratory, physiological, or midwife's permit; whoever establishes one of the medical institutions mentioned in this article without a permit from the Ministry of Health Care, Treatment, and Medical Education; whoever gives his permit to someone else or uses someone else's permit will have his place of work closed immediately by the Ministry of Health Care, Treatment, and Medical Education, be sentenced to six months to three years of penal imprisonment, and fined from 5 million rials [R] to R100 million, or twice the price of the confiscated drugs (whichever is greater).

Note 1: Importing and exporting and buying and selling drugs without a permit from the Ministry of Health Care, Treatment, and Medical Education will be considered a crime. The perpetrator will be sentenced to the punishments given in Article 3 and the drugs found will be confiscated for use by the government.

Note 2: If any one of the officials mentioned in Article 3 or officials at centers for making, procuring, distributing, and selling drugs, equipment, and medical equipment undertakes to buy and sell illegally the above items or refuses to distribute and market services or undermines the nation's drug distribution system, in addition to the penalties given in Article 3 will be banned from working in pharmaceutical affairs.

Note 3: All supplements, stimulants, vitamins, and other things to be listed by the Ministry of Health Care, Treatment, and Medical Education, will be considered pharmaceutical items.

Bill Restoring Income Taxes to Shipping and Airline Companies

The report from the second consultation of the Economic and Financial Affairs and Mines Commission concerning the Bill Restoring Income Taxes to Shipping and Airline Companies for the Purpose of Buying Ships and Aircraft was the fourth item on the Majles agenda, and this bill was approved.

Article 1: After collecting and depositing the funds into the nation's General Revenues Account, the Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs is required to return the equivalent of the taxes collected on the profits of the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Company, the Iran National Oil Shipping Company, and the Homa and Asman airline companies, out of credits on a special row to be provided for this purpose in the national budget, to funds established for the aforementioned companies. These funds are to be used exclusively according to the case for the purchase of ships and aircraft. This period of this law's implementation will end no later than the end of the year 1378 [20 March 2000].

Bill Amending The Law on Qualifications for Selecting Judges

The next item on the agenda was the report from the second consultation of the Judicial and Legal Affairs commission concerning the Bill Amending Note 5 of the Law Appending 5 Notes to the Bill on Qualifications for Selecting Judges, Approved in 1363 [21 March 1984-20 March 1985], for which Article 1 was approved by the deputies.

Article 1: Note 5 of the Law Appending 5 Notes to the Bill on Qualifications for Selecting Judges is amended as follows:

Note 5: The chief of the judicial power may also choose women qualified to be chosen as judges in accordance with the legislation enacted 2/14/1361 [4 May 1982], with judicial rank, to hire for consulting positions in the Administrative Justice Court, the Special Civil Courts, as assistant public prosecutors, as interrogators, as consultants in the legal research and judicial law preparation offices, the Office of Supervision for Minors and Consultation in the Legal Affairs Office, and in other offices with judicial positions.

Bill on the Sale or Rental of Machinery for Chahbahar Region Port Projects

The sixth item on the agenda was the report from the second consultation of the Housing and Urban Development Commission concerning the Bill on the Sale or Rental of Machinery and Resources Pertaining to Chahbahar Region Port Projects and the Collection of their Funds from the Treasury after the Aforementioned Funds Are Deposited into the General Treasury, for which Article 1 and its notes were approved.

Amendment to the Law on Organizational and Hiring Regulations for the Foreign Ministry

The final item on the agenda was the second report from the Foreign Policy Commission concerning the Bill Amending Note 1 Article 57 of the Lag on Organizational, Hiring, Financial, and Disciplinary Regulations for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, enacted 2/30/1352 [20 May 1973], for which Article 1 and its note were approved.

Note 1: As necessary and as recommended by the minister of foreign affairs and with the approval of the president of the republic, the period of service of an ambassador may be extended for a maximum of two years beyond the period given in this law.

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Majles Notes

The Majles Chamber and Mobile Telephones

Before the agenda began, Mr. Nateq-Nuri said in a speech: I ask the deputies who are carrying mobile (wireless) telephones to turn them off when they come into the Majles chamber. We announced before that using these telephones in the chamber is a violation of a decision made by the Speaker's Council. Therefore, maintain order during the session.

Constitutional Warning From the Deputy From Damavand and Firuzkuh Concerning the Deputy From Shiraz's Speech

Mr. Rasulinezhad, deputy from Damavand and Firuzkuh, gave a Constitutional warning after the speech by Qasem Sho'leh Sa'di, deputy from Shiraz. He said: On Sunday in his pre-agenda speech Mr. Sho'leh Sa'di said some things about the feudal system which exist not only in the economic sector but also in other sectors. In the Constitution (Articles 5 and 107) prerogatives are given to the vice-regent, and unfortunately in his talk he questioned these prerogatives.

He added: We know that the important achievements of the Islamic revolution include the formation of the Cultural Revolution Council, the Special Clerical Court, and the Special Constitutional Article 49 Court. The Special Constitutional Article 49 Court was enacted by the Third Majles, and he attacked these organizations. Even people who are not versed in religious matters say that since it is mentioned in the Constitution, the leader's views and commands take precedence over the law and must thus be acted upon. How can a deputy permit himself to question in the Majles the achievements of the Islamic revolution and bodies that were formed by order of the late Imam and also with the emphatic support of the exalted leader?

Research and Investigation of Foreign Missions

Dr. Kamran, deputy from Esfahan, gave a guidelines memo asking for the announcement of the results of the research and investigation of missions taken outside the country. Addressing Dr. Rowhani, he said: In view of the fact that your excellency is chairman of the Foreign Policy Commission, some time ago we asked for research and investigation into foreign trips. According to the Guidelines, after two months and after six months we should know the outcome.

He also added: The respected expert from the Foreign Policy Commission gave a newspaper interview saying that this research and investigation is important, although the case remains unresolved, and he called for it to be pursued seriously.

Dr. Hasan Rowhani answered: In general your memo is proper. The commission has been pursuing the matter, but the deputies who requested the research and investigation themselves unfortunately did not come to do the work. You should therefore facilitate this by bringing forward the deputies who made the request to be on the commission and pursue the matter.

Formation of Association of Tribal Deputies

A group of 29 deputies from the nation's tribal areas issued a statement announcing the formation of the Association of Tribal Deputies.

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[FBIS Translated Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division—The Majles met in open session yesterday chaired by Mr. 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, and the deputies from the cities of Ramhormoz, Chenaran and Torqabeh, Bonab, and Dashti and Tangestan gave pre-agenda speeches. Then the Majles took up its agenda, and we direct the attention of our esteemed readers to the details of the proceedings.

Mohammad Reza Bahmehi, Deputy From Ramhormoz

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Bahmehi, deputy from Ramhormoz. He discussed the exalted leader's message about economic contraction. He said: One of the top slogans in the new year is the idea of economic contraction. It is necessary to consider how this contraction will be achieved and what it is. Apart from the material issues and maintaining trust, which are among the primary principles of contraction, there are also other matters whose observance can in many ways advance our national interest.

He discussed the unification of the foreign exchange rate and said: Today everyone is talking about the official rate, the floating rate, the export rate, etc. Isn't the official rate in our economy the same rate as the so-called floating rate? Didn't the multiple rates weaken the national currency?

He discussed the 12.4 percent inflation in the Second Five-Year Plan. He said: The Majles now has the duty to ask officials to give a more precise plan and to explain whenever there is deviation from the planned course. They must explain why this happened. Why did this situation develop? Because the Majles never asked why these deviations took place or how this developed. In other words, the Majles did not want to know why

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policies did not achieve their objectives. If contraction had been established as a policy, the Majles would have asked the gentlemen in the very first year: Why didn't you do what you said you would do?

Bahmehi then added in the same regard: There are many instances where the Majles made a law and something different was done. If we want law to prevail and the principle of contraction to take over, we must begin with ourselves. This year the principle must be accepted that first, an expert report will be made and second, every law will be followed up during its implementation.

He emphasized the need for reducing current expenses, preventing waste, and making maximum use of the nation's existing resources. He said: It appears that some organizations and even some ministries are not that necessary in light of their heavy costs. It is recommended that these kinds of organizations be closed, even if only temporarily. With regard to investments, both the government and the Majles unfortunately are approving the construction of some factories in some areas which have no economic justification at all, and this in itself is destroying national capital.

Ahmad Moradi, Deputy From Torqabeh and Chenaran

The next speaker was Moradi, deputy from Torqabeh and Chenaran. During his speech he said: The imperialist United States must realize that it is a mistake to test the one who has been tested. The U.S. Government is too small to take on a fight with the combative nation of Iran.

He noted that we should appreciate this nation and added: Positions and rank must not put distance and separation between the people and the officials because these responsibilities are temporary. What will remain and is permanent is the people.

The speaker noted the fact that Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's worthy and concerned management of affairs, despite the existing problems and difficulties, promise bright horizons for the nation's future. He said: When the people think about the nation's fruitful future and when they imagine the nation's political and economic independence, it is easy for them to endure the pressures and problems of life.

Moradi said that the goal in forming the Consumer Protection Organization was to help the vulnerable classes and procure the financial resources for goods needed by the people. He added: Unfortunately, in practice this has made so many additions to the family basket that any aid has been eclipsed.

The speaker emphasized the fact that the policies adopted by the executive organizations are not at all compatible with the general policies of the Five-Year Plan. He said: Increases in the cost of water and electrical power on the one hand, pointless severity on the other, the heavy expenses the Ministry of Energy has imposed on farmers, and the indeterminate status of the unauthorized wells dug since the revolution, which has confused farmers, are not at all compatible with the spirit of the Five-Year Plan. It is recommended that the Ministry of Energy prepare a bill that allows the legal sale of permits for agricultural wells.

The deputy from Torqabeh and Chenaran regarded the increase in the prices of fertilizer and pesticides by the Economic Council as a mistake. As an example, he discussed chemical fertilizer: Using the price of 22 rials [R] in 1371 [21 March 1992-20 March 1993] as the base price, in 1372 [21 March 1993-20 March 1994] the price multiplied five times. If this continues, farmers will stop planting strategic crops and move to the cultivation of more profitable crops.

The speaker explained: In announcing new astronomical prices, the Ministry of Industries has gone to a trial in which it will be the only one present.

Rasul Sadiqi, Deputy From Bonab

Sadiqi, deputy from Bonab, was another pre-agenda speaker. During his speech he discussed the changes that were brought about in the country at the end of the First Five-Year Plan. He said: Currently, after the opening and construction of numerous dams, more than 30 dams are being built by the capable hands of the nation's specialists, yet in the entire period before the revolution, only 13 dams were built and those were done by foreigners. Regarding our telephone service, last year alone as many telephones were assigned as were done in all the years before the revolution.

The deputy from Bonab spoke in support of the president of the republic's remarks and said: If the United States is really so sensitive about nuclear technology, why isn't it making these accusations against the Zionist regime, which is impudently making illegal use of nuclear technology and will not even accept membership in the International Atomic Energy Commission? What is obvious is their hostility toward Islam.

Sadiqi then discussed urban development. He said: Unfortunately, in some cases in Tehran, tall buildings are constructed solely to create revenue, or they permit the construction of such fancy towers in residential and villa areas that comparable ones are not even found in Western nations.

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He then emphasized the need to put the Sahand Airport into operation.

Seyyed Kamal-ed-Din Shahriari, Deputy From Dashti and Tangestan

The final pre-agenda speaker was Shahriari, deputy from Dashti and Tangestan. During his speech he said: On Sunday the Province of Bushehr was visited by Ayatollah Yazdi, chief of the judicial power, and his accompanying delegation. This is a province that, because of its hot climate, was the place of exile and imprisonment before the revolution for one of the dearest figures of the revolution and the government of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Yazdi.

He continued: His 17-hour visit to the various municipalities in the province, his visit to the graves of martyrs and judicial units, and his meetings with the clergy and the people, in light of his age, are an outstanding example for officials in high and mid-level positions, so they can realize to what extent they must work for this government and revolution.

The speaker said that prior to Ayatollah Yazdi's appointment there were judicial units in only 40 percent of the municipalities in the Province of Bushehr, while now 100 percent of the municipalities in the Province of Bushehr have the necessary judicial units; this is also based on the new General Courts Law. This has made a profound change in terms of quality in the judicial system in the Province of Bushehr and has expedited the handling of cases and promoted justice.

At the end of his speech Shahriari, on behalf of himself, the deputies from Bushehr and Dashtestan, and the martyr-nurturing people of the Province of Bushehr, expressed thanks for the trip by Ayatollah Yazdi and his delegation, and he wished him health and success in the service of Islam and the revolution.

Legislation

Organizations, Duties, and Elections of National Islamic Councils Bill

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the details of the Organizations, Duties and Elections of National Islamic Councils and Mayoral Election Bill, the most important parts of which are printed for our esteemed readers.

Article 1. To promote rapid advancement of social, economic, development, health care, education, training, and nurturing programs and other welfare affairs through public cooperation, and to supervise the affairs in rural areas, villages, cities, and developments, councils called rural, village, urban, and housing development Islamic councils will be formed based on the regulations in this law.

Article 7. The number of members of the urban and housing development Islamic councils will be as follows:

A. City of Tehran, 15 people

B. Cities of more than 1 million population, 11 people
C. Cities of more than 200,000 population, 9 people
D. Cities of more than 50,000 population, 7 people
E. Other cities, 5 people
F. Housing developments with 1,000 families and more, 5 people, and with 200 to 1,000 families, 3 people

Note: The criterion for determining the population of each city and rural area will be the most recent population census.

Article 10. Majles deputies, governors-general, governors, district governors, rural district governors, rural mayors, general managers, and office chiefs may attend the meetings of the Islamic councils in their electoral precincts, without the right to vote.

Article 13. In housing complexes outside the legal limits of cities and rural areas whose residential units are independent or are apartments able to be owned by individuals, and which are called housing developments in accordance with regulations, a council called the Housing Development Islamic Council will be formed.

Article 17. The election of members of the rural, urban, and housing development councils will be done directly, publicly, by secret ballot, and by majority percentage vote.

Article 26. Those registering as candidates must have the following qualifications at the time of registration:

A. Citizenship in the nation of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

B. At least 25 years of age.
J. At least one year of continuous residence in the area at the time the vote is taken.
D. Belief and practical commitment to Islam and the vice-regency of the chief jurisconsult.
H. Expressing loyalty to the Law of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
V. Sufficient literacy to read and write.

Note 1: Instead of belief in Islam, members of religious minorities recognized in the Constitution must have belief and practical commitment to their own religious principles.

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Article 28. Those listed below are prohibited from registering as candidates for the Islamic councils because of their positions and their employment:

1. The president of the republic and his consultants, the deputies of the president of the republic, ministers, deputy ministers and their consultants, Majles deputies, members of the Guardian Council, the chief of the judicial power and his deputies and consultants, the chief of the National Supreme Court, the national public prosecutors and their deputies and consultants, the chief of the Administrative Justice Court, the chief of the National Inspectorate Organization, those employed in the armed forces, the chiefs of the armed forces ideological and political organizations and directorates, the chief of the Voice and Vision Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran and his deputies, the chiefs and supervisors of government organizations, the chief of the Red Crescent Society and his consultants, the chief of the Foundation for the Oppressed and Wounded War Veterans, the supervisor of the Martyr Foundation, the supervisor of the Housing Foundation, the supervisor of the Imam's Aid Committee, the chiefs of organizations, the general managers of government companies (such as the Telephone Company, the Smoking Materials Company, etc.), the supervisor of the Literacy Crusade, the chief of the Iran Physician's System, the general managers of staff organizations in the ministries and government organizations and offices, and other chiefs, managers, and supervisors whose responsibilities cover the entire country, are all prohibited from membership in the Islamic councils throughout the country unless they resign their positions two months before registering as candidates and are not employed in that position in any way.

2. Mayors and managers of institutions, zones, and companies affiliated with a municipality are prohibited from membership in the Islamic councils in the city where they are serving unless they resign their positions two months before registering as candidates and do not work in that position in any way.

Article 53. To supervise the elections of the councils, a Central Council to Supervise the National Islamic Council Elections will be formed consisting of three members of the National Councils and Domestic Affairs Commission and two members of the Constitution Articles 88 and 90 Commission, to be chosen by the Majles.

It is worth mentioning that Dr. Zali proposed that mayors be elected by direct vote of the people, and this proposal was rejected.

Continued consideration was postponed to the next session.

Majles Notes

Request for Research and Investigation Regarding Transfer of Vehicles

The undisciplined transfer of vehicles to managers by government organizations has aroused great sensitivity among the Majles deputies. In this regard a motion to research and investigate the matter was submitted to the Majles yesterday signed by more than seven Majles deputies.

It is worth mentioning that the very urgent motion to study the procedure for transferring vehicles will be presented in the open Majles next Sunday.

New Experience!

Yesterday for the first time, due to the fact that the Motion on National Islamic Council and Mayoral Elections was accepted by Mr. Movahedi-Saveji as chief of the relevant commission and Mr. 'Abbasi was not present at the session, 59 articles of this bill were passed by the Majles in an unprecedented record. At the end of the session Mr. Nateq-Nuri joked that today the Majles had a new experience. Mr. 'Abbasi's absence and the lack of opposition from Mr. Movahedi-Saveji expedited the approval of the notes.

23 Apr 95

95LA0224A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 24 Apr 95 pp 4, 11

[FBIS Translated Text] **Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division—The Majles held an open session yesterday with Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq-Nuri presiding, and the deputies of Tehran, the Armenians of the South, Ahvaz, and Shahrud made pre-agenda speeches. Then the Majles went into session. We call to your attention the details of the discussions.**

Seyyed Morteza Nabavi, Deputy From Tehran

The first pre-agenda speaker yesterday was Engineer Nabavi, the deputy from Tehran, who said: The hostility of the United States toward our religion and nation has a long history. Upon the order of the U.S. leaders, the shah rose up against the clerics and termed the movement of the Imam "black reactionary." In accordance with the U.S. plan, the shah engaged in eliminating Islam from our country, sent the Imam into exile, and even replaced the calendar of the revered Prophet of Islam with the monarchical calendar. On the order of U.S. advisors in Tehran, the shah ripped the chests of the people with U.S. weapons.

He added: The enmity of the United States has been listed in the communique of the honorable president,

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who has been a target of the bullets of the U.S.-backed terrorists, and a clear picture has been displayed of how this nation has been wronged, including the atrocities, the military aggression, the human rights violations, the interference in the form of conspiracies, the confiscation of property, the use of terrorists, the great false propaganda against the revolution, the baseless accusations regarding the use of chemical weapons and approaching atomic weapon capabilities, the attack on the air bus, the economic embargo, the resorting to coups d'etat, and the thousands of instances of adventurism by the U.S. Perots.

The older the revolution gets, the more U.S. hostility toward Islam, the Muslims, and the oppressed in the world increases, and the clearer its oppressive and aggressive nature becomes. On the other hand, the resistance and bravery of the Muslim nation of Iran and other Muslims in the world have deepened.

Mr. Nabavi called the communique of the president a deep crystallization of our essential fight against the United States and training to eliminate the domination of the foreigners over Muslims and said: Let the corrupt U.S. President be angry over the stability and peace of our Islamic country and die of this anger. Let the Democrats once again lose their chance, even in the next U.S. elections, because of the ignorance and blindness of their leaders. Let the U.S. leaders once again display their ignorance and failure to understand the world and its future. The more Clinton and his corrupt secretary of state suffer from hysteria and anxiety and irrational reactions against us, the more brightly our president, trusting the everlasting divine power and the capabilities of the people of Iran, presents the anti-oppression face of Islam, the revolution, and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The president clearly expressed that Iran does not need economic relations with U.S. companies and exposed U.S. double standards.

Continuing, the deputy from Tehran pointed out: The late Imam, the grand leader, the president, and other officials of the country had an old understanding of the nature of the United States and the impossibility that its leaders would be calmed, but it was important to transmit this understanding to the contemporary world, and they succeeded in doing so. Today, no longer can Kuwait and Saudi Arabia trust the United States because Saddam is still in power in Iraq and has gained permission to sell oil again. Today, it has become clear that the United States did not come to the region to rescue Kuwait. It came to rob the Arab oil-producing countries, as it did. It came to keep its domination over Japan and Europe and bully them, as it did, and to take control of the oil flow, as it did.

He explained: With this situation, will Europe, Japan, the Arab oil-producing countries, and other countries trust the promises of the United States? Anyone who plants with Satan will reap nothing but harm in both worlds. In the past, how much of the bullying of Democrats and Republicans and U.S. economic sanctions against Iran was effective, and how effective would it be today, given the influence of the Islamic Republic in the world and the economic, scientific, and technological capabilities that it has gained domestically? Now, once again, will Europe and Japan be affected by the climate created by the U.S. leaders? Now, are the Russians and Chinese waiting for the United States to frown, so that they can stop relations with Iran? The depth of the hostility of the leaders of heathenism and oppression, the United States, and the perpetuation of its grudges, enmity, and anger against us, along with its conspiracies against us, indicate the correctness of the Islamic revolution and the Islamic Republic and its high place in neutralizing the U.S. regional and global policies.

Regarding social and economic discipline, the speaker pointed out:

With regard to establishing social and economic discipline, there is a lot to say. The Majles, the Accounting Office, and the General Inspection Office of the country have taken encouraging steps, but not those intended by the grand leader of the revolution or those that are necessary for the society. The leaning toward rules and the law and the observing of principles, values, and standards on the part of the officials and the people indicate the development, growth, and perfection of the society and the contentment of the people with the government. The order of the affairs of the people around the axis of the government and process of the work displays the power of the government and deepens its influence in the hearts of the people. He said: An important part of social discipline is provided by cultural values; comprehensive laws; and the calculated economic, social, cultural, and political systems which are required. If these systems are not designed on the basis of the nature of human beings and with sufficient care, they can be the source of disorder and chaos, similar to the economic, capitalist, or communist systems. The role of the government and the Majles in these plans is very sensitive and determined. The supervisory and judicial organizations must act with such decisiveness, precision, and swiftness that the violator dares not engage in a violation and would not allow himself to lack discipline. The Accounting Office, the General Inspection Organization of the country, and the Judicial Branch have such a role to prevent lack of discipline in the society. If, contrary to Article 53 of the Constitution,

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some of the organizations—such as Agriculture, Mines, Jihad, Oil, and Communication—still have non-budget revenues and as a result have expenditures which do not conform to the regulations, does a major part of this problem not concern the Judicial Branch, which is responsible for the ruling on implementing the laws?

Continuing, the deputy of the people of Tehran said: We ask the honorable head of the Judicial Branch to study and announce how many of the cases that the Accounting Office has filed and sent to the court are not included and for how many of them decisive rulings are issued. If necessary, special branches should be established for examining the reports of the General Inspection Office of the country and the Accounting Office, so that unrestrained individuals in the organizations are careful in their work and do not commit violations for fear of the law. One of the resources of organizations for non-budget revenues is the mushroom-like commercial companies that have been established by the organizations under the pretext of privatization outside the budget. In order to establish economic order, it is necessary to deal with this new phenomenon. The complaint of the leader of the revolution, who said, "In establishing social discipline, we have had some progress; efforts are being made, but not as much as I intended and is necessary for our society," places a heavy burden on the shoulders of the people and officials, especially the honorable heads of the three branches. God willing, the honorable heads of the three branches, separately within their area of responsibility and also together, will make an effort to establish social and economic discipline this year and report the results to the grand leader and the noble nation. The role of the media in creating a work ethic and the establishment of social order is undeniable. The Islamic regime cannot achieve its lofty goals without a devised advertising stratagem and without continuously cleansing the minds of the society of information pollution.

In conclusion, Eng. Nabavi said: It is not clear in his interview how the honorable minister of interior allowed the satellite antennae and equipment to be kept in the houses. It is hoped that the government will revise its bylaws that are contrary to the law and will not step beyond the law ratified by the Majles.

Artavas Baghumian, Deputy of Armenians in the South

The next pre-agenda speaker of the Majles was Baghumian, who offered his congratulations on the appointment of the leader of the Armenian Church in the world and said: Our Armenian compatriots, as a part of the Iranian nation, have always considered and still consider it their duty not to hesitate in any sort of self-sacrifice in protecting the territorial integrity of the country and the overall progress of Iran.

Evidence supporting this claim is their extensive participation in the struggles of the Islamic revolution and in the defense of the rights of the noble people of Iran in the imposed war.

He praised the efforts of the industrialists in the society in building the country and said: We have left behind us the First Plan, while in the course of this plan we witnessed essential projects like large petrochemical, oil, natural gas, refinery, steel parts, and other complexes, and now we are at the stage of implementing the Second Plan.

He continued: The policies of some of the governments headed by the United States that by using vast resources overshadow Iran and these days raise the issue of the Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf, about which there is no doubt that they belong to Iran, or the peaceful use of nuclear energy, which is used by a large number of countries in the world. [sentence as published]

Contrary to the opinion of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is trying to create obstacles for us, Iran does not intend to manufacture and produce nuclear weapons. Also, in order to gain total domination over the oil resources of the Azerbaijan Republic and the Caspian Sea recently, they have revoked the signed agreements and, contrary to international laws, they refuse to act on their commitments to facilitate the active and constructive participation of Iran in excavating and making better use of these resources. Of course, the incompetence of the rulers of Azerbaijan and the dependence of the leaders of Turkey are among the main factors in this issue.

He explained: The peaceful coexistence of the Iranian nation and the followers of various religions in the country should serve as a suitable model for other countries. As the Constitution of the Islamic Republic has established, the religious minorities enjoy appropriate rights, and the Iranian Armenians have a very active church, with athletic, private, and cultural societies and schools in which Armenian students are studying. Also, the presence of Armenian students in higher education verifies the existing realities in Iran.

On the anniversary of the massacre of the Armenians by the Ottoman empire, he strongly condemned this action and the actions of Turkey in the slaughter of the Iraqi Kurds.

In conclusion, the speaker praised the actions of the president and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in their peace-seeking measures in the Karabakh region.

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'Ali Motavvari, Deputy From Ahvaz

The next speaker was Motavvari from Ahvaz, who said: God gave the banner of guidance in the course of history to the strong hands of chosen prophets, from Adam to the Seal of the Prophets. At one time this banner waved in the hand of the Sire of the Faithful, 'Ali; one day, it waved at the side of Hoseyn ebn 'Ali, in the banner-carrying hand of Abu al-Fazl al-'Abbas; and tomorrow, as it has been promised, under the auspices of there is no God but God and Mohammad is His Prophet, it will shine in the powerful hands of the only offspring of the land and heavens, our owner and benefactor, his holiness, the Imam of the Age, throughout the world.

He continued: Today, this world-covering banner that was raised for a moment by the divine power of the spirit of God, the idol-breaking Khomeyni, is waving on the shoulder of his nurtured pupil, Grand Ayatollah Khamene'i.

The speaker also emphasized: If the Great Satan, the blood-thirsty United States, has summoned together the satans of the world to strike a blow on the land of the owner of the time with an embargo and threats, once again they will test their power and ruin their reputation.

He said: We have a wise and farsighted leader who destroys the threats of the oppressors. As long as we hear the call for prayers from the mouths and hearts, the sound of the Koran from meetings and houses, and the resonance of prayers and chants about the family of the Prophet, we shall not allow the victory of Satan to be achieved this time as well in Islamic Andalusia.

Referring to the recent visit of the president to the province of Khuzestan, the blessed results of his visit, and the generous welcome of the people, the deputy from Ahvaz said: Indeed the people of Khuzestan have paid their debt to Islam and the revolution.

The speaker continued: The monster of high prices that can be harnessed by relying on God, essential planning, eliminating administrative luxuries, just distribution, fair supervision, 'Ali-like decisiveness, and giving room to the Hezbollah forces, will never stop these appreciative people from their goal and path. It is hoped that the government, the Majles, and the Judicial Branch will also expedite the performance of its deputy to harness inflation.

Pointing out that we are near the 40th day after the death of the memento of the Imam, Motavvari added: Undoubtedly, the noble people of Khuzestan, especially in the city of Ahvaz and the honorable tribes of that area, who love and follow guardianship as in the past, will join with other members of the noble nation of Iran to participate in the 40th day ceremonies for that friend. Regarding the Haj pilgrimage, he asked the Saudi Government officials to demonstrate their skill in reviving the grandeur of Islam and, in harmony with their nation and in step with the noble people of Iran, share the kindness in the hearts of Muslims and create fear in the hearts of global oppressors.

In conclusion, Motavvari expressed hope that with the blessing of the visit of the president, the problems of the comprehensive plan for the Martyr Chamran University, the Gatvand water transfer project to Ahvaz, the Ahvaz sewage, and the unemployment of the young people will be eliminated.

Seyyed Mohammad Musavi-Shahrudi, Deputy From Shahrud

The last pre-agenda speaker of the open session yesterday was Musavi-Shahrudi from Shahrud, who said: After the death of our clerical brother, the late Hoseyn Shahrudi, the brave and revered people of the city of Shahrud and their elected servant quickly came to the scene of elections to please God and displayed the most exciting divine revolutionary presence.

He continued: I consider it my duty to thank all the strata of the noble and revered people of the city of Shahrud and all the honorable officials and colleagues in the Majles who gave their unprecedented trust to this humble teacher.

I ask God Almighty to grant me the opportunity to greater serve. In conclusion, the speaker added: May God grant me the opportunity to be able to play a valuable role alongside the officials and the people with regard to the directives of the grand leader and place my scientific knowledge and experience of several decades at the service of the Majles.

Ratifications

Bill on Establishment of Islamic Councils and Selection of Mayors

The first item on the agenda of yesterday's open session of the Majles was the continuation of examining the details of the bill on the organizations, duties, and elections of national Islamic councils and the selection of mayors, of which all the articles were ratified by the deputies.

Article 80. The duties of the Islamic Council of the city are as follows:

1. To select the mayor for a term of four years.

Note 1. Immediately after becoming official, the Islamic Council of the city is responsible for selecting a qualified mayor.

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Note 2. The mayor cannot be simultaneously a member of the City Council.

Note 4. The service of the mayor shall be terminated in the following cases:

A. Written resignation, with the approval of the Council.

B. Dismissal by the Council in accordance with the legal regulations.
C. In case of suspension, in accordance with the legal regulations.
D. If lacking one of the qualifications for being a mayor, as determined by the City Council.

8. Supervision over the proper administration and protection of the capital, cash, materials, and movable and immovable City Hall property, and also supervision over their revenue and expenditure account in a way that would not disrupt the normal course of affairs of the City Hall.

12. Ratification of the budget, correction and amendment of the budget, and settling of the annual budget of the City Hall and institutions and companies affiliated with the City Hall, on the basis of the financial bylaws of the City Halls, and also ratification of the City Council budget.

Note. All the City Hall revenues shall be deposited in accounts opened with the approval of the City Councils in the banks and spent according to related laws.

14. Ratification of the transactions and supervision over them, including purchases, sales, contracts, leasing, and renting that take place in the name of the city and City Hall, by taking into consideration the interests and on the basis of the City Hall financial and transactional bylaws and regulations.

15. Ratification of the charters of institutions and companies affiliated with City Hall, with the approval and agreement of the Ministry of Interior.

17. Supervision over the proper course of disputes related to the City Hall.

Article 81. The requirements for the position of mayor shall be in accordance with bylaws to be proposed by the Ministry of Interior and approved by the Cabinet.

According to Article 100, within a maximum of one year after the ratification of this law, all councils throughout the country must be established.

Article 101. All laws related to the former City Assemblies, organizations, and elections of Islamic Councils of the country that were devised prior to this law and other contrary laws are rescinded.

Article 102. The Ministry of Interior is responsible for the implementation of this law and is responsible to prepare the needed implemental bylaws within two months. The Cabinet is responsible to ratify these bylaws within three months after the ratification of this law, out of turn.

Proposal To Prevent Air Pollution

The second item on the agenda was the procedures for preventing air pollution (returned from the Council of Guardians) and the amendment by the committee was ratified.

On the Margins of the Majles

Letter of Gratitude of 150 Deputies Regarding the Promotion of Dr. Firuzabadi

The text of the letter to the grand leader is as follows:

To the Blessed and Grand Leader and the Commander in Chief of the Forces, Ayatollah Khamene'i: Respectfully, we would like to inform you that granting the rank of Major General with nine years of seniority to the Basij Hezbollah brother, the committed and sincere physician, Dr. Seyyed Hasan Firuzabadi, has brought joy and heartfelt trust to us, the deputies of the nation. Your Honor's trust in this Basiji brother and the effect of the high station of the Basij in the regime of the Islamic Republic is justly considered a pivotal point in the 16-year history of the revolution and can indicate the depth of the grandeur and farsightedness of the grand leader of the revolution on the one hand, and attention to the faithful, concerned, and revolutionary elements who have experienced hardship on the other, as it is presented to the world, and shows the acceptable model of this divine regime to everyone.

This letter states: Also, this message indicates that in an army based on faith and belief in Islam, those deserve to receive rank and seniority who come from the people, bringing with them vast experience, effort, and Islamic and revolutionary capability, who have risen to achieve the sacred goals of Islam, are obedient to the command of the leader, and step forward without any doubt or hesitation.

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